



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

### Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

### About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>



US 16849.5



Harvard College Library

FROM

.....  
    *Peabody Institute*  
        *by*  
.....*Exchange*.....  
.....







ANNALS,

COMPRISING

*Memoirs, Incidents and Statistics*

OF

HARRISBURG.

FROM

THE PERIOD OF ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT.

---

FOR THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE.

---

COMPILED BY

GEORGE H. MORGAN.

---

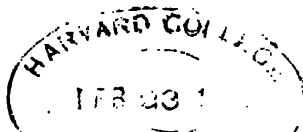
HARRISBURG:

PUBLISHED BY GEO. A. BROOKS

1858,

~~12387.15.9~~ U 516849.5

$\frac{1203}{42}$



By exchange  
Peabody Institute, Baltimore

53289

---

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1858, by

GEORGE A. BROOKS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern  
District of Pennsylvania.

---

---

THEO. F. SCHEFFER, PRINTER, HARRISBURG.

## ERRATA.

---

Page 34, in the ninth line from the bottom, for "Florster" read "Forster."

Page 51, in the eighth line from the top, for "was," after "Mr. Elder," read "succeeded Mr. Bertram as." In the same line and the next, for the words "when it was first built, about one hundred and twenty years ago," read "in 1737." In the line following, omit the words "upwards of." And in lieu of the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth lines from the top, read "The first Paxton church building was erected about the year 1732. It was constructed of logs and stone, chiefly of the former; and stood a short distance south-west of the stone church, (erected between the years 1750 and 1755,) still standing, about two and a-half miles from Harrisburg, on the Hummels-town turnpike."

Page 83, in the seventeenth line from the top, for "Jesse Rowland" read "James Lackey."

Page 85, in the seventh line from the top, for "July" read "January." On the same page, in lieu of the sentence commencing after the word "neighborhood," in the second line from the top, and ending before the word "From," in the second line following, read "The courts were afterwards held in the old log jail which formerly stood on the north-west side of Strawberry alley, a short distance north-east of Raspberry alley, and in a log house which formerly stood on the lot now occupied by the "Farmers' Hotel," on the east side of Market street, near Dewberry alley.

Page 89, in the eighth line from the bottom, for "the year 1785" read "for the years 1785, and those following until 1799, inclusive." In the sixth line from the bottom, for "year" read "period." And for the two bottom lines, read "The expenditures for the erection of the present Court House commenced in 1792, and occur at different periods after that until 1799, inclusive. They appear in the book as follows."

Page 144, in the eighth and ninth lines from the bottom, for "February" read "January."

Page 145, in the top line, omit the word "foregoing."

Page 147, in the sixth line from the bottom, for "\$490" read "\$400."

Page 151, in the top line, for the words "the river, being" read "Sweet Briar alley, in." And in lieu of the sixth and seventh lines from the top, read "Under authority of a joint resolution passed by the Legislature, April 2, 1821, viewers, headed by Archibald M'Allister, were appointed between the commissioners and owners of lots running in front of the Capitol to the river, between North and South streets, who reported the value of said lots, as held by the owners, to be \$24,400, which unexpected estimate caused the project of their purchase by the State to be abandoned."

Page 211, in the second line from the bottom, for "Berks" read "Lebanon."

Page 238, in the eleventh line from the top, for "or" read "of." In the fourteenth line from the bottom, for "wooding" read "wood."

Page 234, in the seventh line from the top, between the words "of" and "equal" insert the word "nearly." In the tenth line from the bottom, after the word "alley," read "to the front wall of the building."

Page 278, in the eighth line from the top, for "In" read "Previous to."

Page 308, in the tenth line from the top, for "eight" read "six."

Page 323, in the fifteenth line from the top, for "fourteen" read "sixteen;" and in the next line below, for "sixteen" read "fourteen."

Page 324, in the third line from the top, for "M'Marland" read "M'Farland;" and in the next line below, for "Carman" read "Canon."

Page 355, in the eighth line from the top, between the words "The Paxton" insert the word "first." In the same line and the next, in lieu of the words "still standing about three miles from Harrisburg, was erected about the year 1722," read "was erected about the year 1732."

Page 357, in the sixth line from the bottom, for the words "who died several years ago," read "still living in one of the Western States."

Page 361, in the eleventh line from the top, for "Hale" read "Hall."

Page 377, in the seventh line from the top, for "David J. Krause" read "David G. Krause."

Page 380, in the seventh line from the top, for "1824" read "1825."

## PREFACE.

Says that accomplished and indefatigable annalist, Watson, "Our love of antiquities—the contemplation of *days by-gone*—is an impress of the Deity. It is our hold on immortality. The same affection which makes us reach forward and peer into futurity, prompts us to travel back to the hidden events which transpired before we existed. We thus feel our share of existence prolonged even while we have the pleasure to identify ourselves with the scenes or the emotions of our forefathers. For the same cause relics are so earnestly sought and sedulously preserved. 'They are full of local impressions,' and transfer the mind back to 'scenes before.' "

The object of this work is to rescue from the ebbing tide of oblivion all those forgotten memorials of unpublished facts and observations, or reminiscences and traditions, which will serve to illustrate the domestic history of Harrisburg, past and present.

It is designed as a *museum* of whatever is rare, surprising or agreeable concerning the primitive days of our sturdy forefathers, or of the subsequent changes by their sons, either in the alterations or improvements of given localities, or in the modes and forms of "changing men and manners." It is a picture of the doings and characteristics of a "buried age." By the images

which their recital creates in the imagination, the *ideal presence* is generated, and we talk and think with "men of other days."

Herein the aged citizen may travel back in memory to the scenes and gambols of their sportive boyhood days; and the youth of the borough may regale their fancies with recitals as novel and marvellous to their wondering minds as the "Arabian Tales," even while they have the gratification to commingle in idea with the plays and sports of their own once youthful ancestors. The dull, unheeding citizen who writes "*nihil admirari*" of the most of things, may here see cause to "wonder that he never saw before what the compiler shows him, and that he never yet had felt what he impresses."

To natives of Harrisburg settled in distant lands, these particulars concerning the "old homestead" will present the most welcome gifts their friends here could offer them.

It is not too romantic to presume that a day is coming, if not already arrived, when the *memorabilia* of Harrisburg, and of its primitive inhabitants, so different from the present, will be highly appreciated by all those who can feel intellectual pleasure in travelling back through the "vale of years," and conferring with the "mighty dead." Such will give their thanks and gratitude to labors as humble as these, for the compiler has not aimed to give them that "painted form" which might allure by its ornaments of rhetoric; he has rather repressed the excur-sive fancy he sometimes could not but feel. His object has not been to say *all* which could have been adduced on every topic, but to gather up the segregated facts in their several cases which others had overlooked or disregarded, or to save fugitive facts

which others had neglected. In this way he has chiefly labored to furnish the material by which better or more ambitious writers could elaborate more formal history, and from which, as a repository, our poets and painters, and imaginative authors could deduce themes for their own and their country's glory. Scanty, therefore, as these crude materials may seem, "fiction" may some day lend its charms to amplify and consecrate FACTS, and "tales of ancient Harrisburg" may be "touched by genius and made immortal."

The materials for the work have been chiefly derived from the Archives of the State, County, and Borough offices; Hazard's Pennsylvania Register; Watson's Annals; Colonial Records; Legislative Documents; Graydon's Memoirs; Rupp's History of Dauphin County, &c.; Day's Historical Recollections; Pennsylvania Gazetteer; files of old newspapers, and from old citizens generally, among whom the compiler is particularly indebted to Messrs. Geo. W. Harris, Valentine Hummel, Sr., David Harris, Joseph Wallace, George Eicholtz, Robert Gillmore, James Peacock, Francis Wyeth, and John Roberts, for valuable aid.





## ANNALS OF HARRISBURG.

---

### JOHN HARRIS—HIS FIRST SETTLEMENT.

From authentic records, we learn that John Harris commenced a settlement, on the present site of Harrisburg, a short time previous to the year 1719.

Mr. Harris was a native of Yorkshire, England, and appears to have been a brewer by profession, as he worked at that business in the city of London. In "Watson's Annals" it is stated that "he was a middle-aged man when he came to America, and was one of the first emigrants with William Penn, at which time his entire capital amounted to only sixteen guineas." He first settled in the city of Philadelphia; and according to a writer in Hazzard's Register, "the nucleus of his future wealth was formed by a profitable contract he obtained from the authorities for removing the stumps and opening streets in that city."

During his residence in Philadelphia, Mr. Harris was on intimate terms with, and enjoyed the friendship and esteem of, Edward Shippen, Esq., the first Mayor of that city, and for a long time one of the leading members of the Provincial Council. It was in this gentleman's family that he first saw and become acquainted with his future wife, Esther Say, also a native of Yorkshire, who is represented to have been a lady of superior intelligence and extraordinary energy.

## HARRIS BECOMES AN INDIAN TRADER.

From Philadelphia, Mr. Harris and his wife moved to Chester county; thence to the neighborhood of the present site of Bainbridge, Lancaster county. Being an enterprising man, he became an active pioneer, and with the fruit of his industry commenced a trade with the Indians, penetrating by degrees to the westward until he reached the present site of Harrisburg.

On the 17th of December, 1733, the proprietaries of Pennsylvania granted to John Harris, by patent, three hundred acres and allowance of land, extending from what is now the upper boundary of the borough of Harrisburg, down the river to a black oak somewhere near the termination of Walnut street with Front street, and thence back by a line, now the upper line of the Messrs. Hamilton's brick-yard, to the rear line, now the line of Mrs. Sales' farm. On the same day, December 19, 1733, a patent was granted to Joseph Turner for five hundred acres and allowance, adjoining the above, and extending down the river from the aforesaid black oak to what is now the division line between the lands of the late John Mahan and Mrs. Hanna, deceased, extending back from the river, and embracing the James Harris tract, now the property of A. B. Hamilton. This was taken up by John Harris in the name of Joseph Turner, no doubt, to comply with certain usages of the Land Office, for on the next day (December 18) Joseph Turner conveyed to Edward Shippen, who on the next day (December 19) conveyed to John Harris.

Here Mr. Harris deposited his merchandize, and opened a profitable commerce with his red neighbors, who at that time were very numerous. He gradually acquired the friendship of most of these tribes, receiving their peltry and other objects of Indian traffic for his ammunition and rum. This led to an active exchange of commodities, and gradually enabled him to pur-

chase the land adjacent to his establishment, and to undertake considerable agricultural improvements.

The majestic Susquehanna, nearly a mile broad, flowed in front of his hut, while along its high banks nothing was to be seen but one dark mass of woods, reaching to the summit of the lofty hills that bounded the view in every direction

#### BIRTH OF JOHN HARRIS, JUNIOR.

In the bosom of this wilderness Mr. Harris' family was located, and here was born, about the year 1727, John Harris, the founder of Harrisburg, who, it is said, was "the first white child born in Pennsylvania west of the Conewago hills who attained the age of manhood."

The son thus born was carried to Philadelphia by his mother for the purpose of being baptized; and according to the Parish Register of Christ Church, in that city, this event was duly solemnized on the 22d day of September, 1728—his age at the time being 11 months.

#### HARRIS' MANSION ON THE SUSQUEHANNA.

Mr. Harris' first habitation was on the lower bank of the river, about one hundred and fifty or two hundred feet below the spot where now repose his remains. The foundation walls of this house have been seen by some of our oldest citizens. A well, dug by Mr. Harris, still exists about one hundred feet east of his grave. It was covered over about ten years ago, but its site is easily distinguished by a small circular mound of earth. Mr. David Harris, a great-grandson of John Harris, states that in his early days "this well supplied a large neighborhood with water, which was exceedingly cool and pleasant to the taste."

In connection with his mansion-house, he erected a large range of sheds, which were sometimes literally filled with skins and

furs, obtained by him in traffic with the Indians, or stored there by Indian traders, who brought them from the western country. These skins were carried, at an early day, on pack horses to Philadelphia for sale.

#### HARRIS CONDEMNED TO BE BURNED—HIS RESCUE.

In this state of affairs, it happened one day that a number of Indians of the Mahanoy, Mahantongo or Shawanese tribe, (most probably the latter,) who had been down the river either on a predatory or trading expedition, stopped at the house of Mr. Harris on their return northward. Most, or all of them, were under the influence of liquor, and demanded of Mr. Harris an additional supply of *lum*, meaning West India rum, as the modern whiskey was not then manufactured in the Province. Perceiving that they were already intoxicated, and fearing mischief, Mr. H. refused to grant the demand; whereupon they became greatly exasperated and dragged him to an adjoining mulberry tree, to which they firmly bound him.

Here they declared their intention to torture and burn him alive, and bade him prepare for instant death. Dry wood was gathered and piled around his feet, and torches held in readiness to kindle it; the yells of the enraged savages echoed along the river shore and through the surrounding forest, while with demoniac gestures they danced around their victim. Death in its most cruel form was before him; and, bereft of hope, he gave himself up for lost. In vain he supplicated for mercy, and offered to give up everything in exchange for life; but the savages were deaf to his entreaties, and declared he should die. The flaming torch was advanced towards the pile, and about being applied, when a band of friendly Indians, supposed to have belonged to the Paxton tribe, and to have come across the river from either the Indian village opposite Harris' residence, or the one situated at the mouth of the Candogoguinet creek, burst suddenly upon the scene and set him at liberty.

These Indians were led on by a negro man named "Hercules," a slave belonging to Mr Harris, who at the first alarm ran to the neighboring tribe to beg for succor, and now brought it to his master's relief. The deliverance was well timed. A moment's delay would have been fatal. The presence of mind, the decision, the speed of this negro alone saved Mr. Harris; and so sensible was he of the great service rendered to him by this poor slave that he instantly emancipated him, and some of the descendants of the worthy Hercules still reside in the borough, enjoying their freedom, so nobly won, in the bosom of the large community who occupy the ground on which the occurrence took place.

An escape so providential was suited to make a deep and lasting impression on the mind of Mr. Harris. Pious and grateful feelings fastened to his heart. It was a signal deliverance; it was a manifest evidence of God's merciful interposition. Struck with this conviction—in order to perpetuate the memory of it among his own descendants—he directed that at his death his body should be deposited at the foot of this mulberry tree; and there it lies, with some of his children, a memento at once of savage ebriety, domestic fidelity, and above all, of the watchfulness of Him "who alone can inflict or withhold the stroke of death."

The above facts are gathered chiefly from an account of the affair written and published in 1828, by Hon. Samuel Breck, at that time a State Senator or Representative from Philadelphia. Mr. Breck enjoyed an intimate acquaintance with the late Robert Harris, Esq., from whom he derived the particulars of the incidents as the latter gentleman had received them as part of the traditional history of his family.

Mrs. Bell, a daughter of Mr. Plunket, a native of Ireland, who was married to Esther, a daughter of John Harris, Sr., made the following statement in relation to this affair to George

W. Harris, Esq., in the year 1840, she being then in the eightieth year of her age :

“That in 1766 she was coming from Carlisle, where she lived, to Harrisburg, in company with her father and a son of her sister. When she came to the river opposite Harrisburg, at the Kelso place, where William Harris was then living, some of the children pointed out to her old Hercules, who was setting on a rock fishing in the river, stating that he had saved the life of his master from the Indians. *She understood it to be when Mr. Harris had been tied to the mulberry tree.*”

Mrs. Bell died several years ago at the residence of her relative, Dr. Maclay, in Perrysville, Mifflin county. She is represented to have been a woman of remarkably good memory, and well educated.

It has been asked by some why the figure of the faithful slave Hercules was omitted from the beautiful paintings representing this affair. It was done, we believe, at the instance of the late Robert Harris, Esq., who furnished the artist with suggestions relative to the scenery and grouping of the figures in the picture. Mr. H. at this period was disposed to doubt if Hercules had been in any manner connected with the affair. It is believed, however, by some of his children, that when he entertained this opinion his memory had become impaired by old age, and had entirely forgotten the circumstances which induced him to believe differently when relating the particulars to Mr. Breck, some years previous.

Under these circumstances, there is no reason for doubting the agency of Hercules in preserving his master's life on this occasion ; and whenever this story is told, let the virtuous African share largely in our praise and admiration.

As there has never been any documentary evidence to substantiate this exciting episode in the life of Mr. Harris, there are some disposed to consider it a myth ; yet we might very properly ask, Has there been anything adduced to disprove it?

Tradition may err; but it strikes us that if it does in this case, it would not have remained over one hundred and twenty or thirty years without being discovered.

If any other testimony was needed to prove the love and friendship the slave Hercules entertained for his master, we might also relate that, upon another occasion, he saved the life of Mr. Harris from being destroyed by an excited steer, while crossing the river on a flat. The truth of this is established beyond doubt.

#### BURIAL PLACE OF JOHN HARRIS, Sr.

Part of the trunk of the mulberry tree to which Mr. Harris was tied is still standing. It is ten feet high to the lowest limbs, and eleven feet six inches in circumference. There are still living those who have seen this tree in bloom, and eaten mulberries from it. The title to the graveyard, to the extent of fifteen feet, is secured by conveyance from the commissioners who laid out the town. The deed is recorded in book A, in the Recorder's Office, at Harrisburg, and reads as follows :

#### *Deed of Conveyance of the Burial Lot.*

This indenture, made the twenty-eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, between Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown, all of the county of Dauphin, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, gentlemen, of the one part, and John Harris, of Harrisburg, county and State aforesaid, of the other part, witnesseth : That the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown, in consideration of the sum of five shillings, lawful money of Pennsylvania, to them in hand well and truly paid by the said John Harris, at and before the execution of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and from the payment thereof the said John Harris, his heirs, executors, administrators, assigns are fully acquitted and forever discharged, have granted,

bargained, sold, released, enfeoffed and confirmed; and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and release, enfeoff and confirm unto him, the said John Harris, his heirs and assigns, a certain lot of ground, situate on the common or front street of the town of Harrisburg, where John Harris was buried, beginning at a mulberry tree on the south-west side of the stone dwelling-house of the said John Harris, thence from the said mulberry tree on the north side so as to contain *fifteen feet square*, together with all and singular the rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, use, possession, claim and demand whatsoever, of them, the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown, of, in and to the same, to have and to hold the said lot and premises hereby granted or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances unto him, the said John Harris, his heirs and assigns, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of him, the said John Harris, his heirs and assigns, forever; and the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown, for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do covenant, grant and agree, to and with the said John Harris, his heirs and assigns, the said described lot of ground, hereditaments and appurtenances, against them, the said grantors, their heirs and assigns, and against all and every other person and persons lawfully claiming, or to claim by, from or under them, or either of them, jointly and severally warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

JACOB AWL,

ANDE. STEWART,  
JAS. COWDEN,  
WM. BROWN,

SEAL.
SEAL.
SEAL.
SEAL.



Scaled and delivered in presence

of us—

J. MONTGOMERY,

JOHN A. HANNA.

Received, on the day of the date of the above written indenture, of the therein named, the sum of five shillings, being in full for the consideration money therein mentioned by us.

JACOB AWL,

JAS. COWDEN,

WM. BROWN.

Witness:

J. MONTGOMERY,

JOHN A. HANNA.

Subsequent to this conveyance, the descendants of Harris secured from the borough authorities an additional five feet of ground, thus making the grave-yard twenty feet square, which they surrounded with a handsome iron railing.

#### HARRIS' INDIAN NEIGHBORS.

When John Harris first settled at Peixtan, as Harrisburg was then called, Indian villages were existing near the large stone house on the bank of the river, opposite Harrisburg, and at the mouth of the Conodoguinet and Yellow Breeches creek. There had been one on the low ground along the river, about the lower line of the town, and another at the mouth of Paxton creek, but these are supposed to have been abandoned at the time Harris made his settlement. The Indians who claimed the soil in this neighborhood were of the Leni Lenape, or Delaware nation.

Day, in his Historical Recollections, says:

"The Leni Lenape nation was divided into three principal divisions—the Unamis, or Turtle tribes, the Unalachtgos, or Turkeys, and the Monseys, or Wolf tribes. The two former occupied the country between the Atlantic ocean and the Kitatinny, or Blue mountain, (five miles north of Harrisburg,)

their settlements extending as far east as the Hudson, and as far west as the Potomac. These were generally known among the whites as the Delaware Indians. The Monseys, or Wolf tribes, the most active and warlike of the whole, occupied the mountainous country between the Kittatinny mountain and the sources of the Susquehanna and Delaware rivers, kindling their council fire at the Minisink flats, on the Delaware, above the water gap. These three principal divisions were divided into various subordinate clans, who assumed names suited to their character or situation."

It is not definitely known what particular clan or tribe was located in this section, but it is supposed they were the Assumpinks.

#### INDIAN REMAINS.

Many vestiges of the Indian race have been from time to time discovered in and about Harrisburg, in the shape of spear and arrow heads, composed of flint or quartz, stone hatchets, pieces of crockery ware, beads, &c. The low ground below the town contains a vast number of these relics buried a foot or so beneath the surface of the soil.

A few years ago, while digging the foundation for a new house, near the river, at the southern edge of the borough, the workmen exhumed a large number of human skeletons, some of which were in a remarkable state of preservation. They were all found in a sitting posture, with their faces fronting the east, from which fact, combined with other circumstances, there can be no doubt that they were the remains of Indians, and that the spot was the burial place connected with the Indian village already alluded to as existing in that vicinity.

A few years prior to this discovery, similar remains were found while digging the foundation for the row of frame buildings belonging to A. J. Jones, Esq., at the corner of Raspberry and Blackberry alleys.

## VISIT OF JOHN EVANS, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO PEIXTAN.

Peixtan (Harrisburg) is frequently spoken of in the Colonial Records. From these we learn that Honorable John Evans, Lieut. Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, in company with Messrs. John French, William Tonge, Michael Bazallion, one Mr. Gray, and four servants, visited Peixtan in June, 1707. The following is the journal of this visit :

“On Tuesday, the 1st July, 1707, we went to Conestoga, and lay there that night, and the next morning proceeded on our journey, and arrived in the evening within three miles of an Indian village called Peixtan. The Governor had received information at Pequehan, that one Nicole, a French Indian trader, was at that place, against whom great complaints had been made to the Governor, of which he acquainted the chief Indian at Peixtan, as also of his design to seize him, who willingly agreed to it; but advised the Governor to be very cautious in the manner, there being only young people at home, who perhaps might make some resistance if it were done without their being told of it. For this reason we lay short of the village that night; but early in the morning we went within a half mile of the town, and, leaving our horses, marched afoot near the same, from whence the Governor sent Martine to the village, ordering him to tell Nicole that he had brought two kegs of rum with him, which he had left in the woods, for fear any Christians were there; and withal to persuade Nicole to go with him and taste the rum. Martine returned with James Letort and Joseph Jessop, two Indian traders, but could not prevail with Nicole. Upon which Martine was sent back, with orders to bring down some Indians, and Nicole with them. Then we drew nearer to town, and laid ourselves in the bushes; and Martine returned with two Indians, whom the Governor acquainted with his intention of taking Nicole, telling at the same

time that he had spoken with the uncle of one of them upon that head, who ordered the Indians to submit to the Governor's commands, with which they were contented; though we perceived too well the contrary, by their inquiring how many we were, and how armed, and the concern they seemed to be in when they found we were in more number than they. But still Nicole was wanting; it was therefore resolved to try once more if he could be got into the woods. Accordingly, Martine went again to the place, and brought Nicole where we lay concealed, and asking him to drink a dram, he seized him; but Nicole started from him and run for it, when immediately we started out and took him, and presently carried him to the village, (Peixtan,) through which we were obliged to pass; and there we found some Indians with guns in their hands, who looked much displeased at what we had done; but being in readiness against any surprise, they thought it not fit to attempt anything. Here we staid about half an hour, and then started for Turpyhocken, [Tulphocken,] having mounted Nicole on a horse and tied his legs under the belly; we got within a mile of Turpyhocken about two of the clock. On Friday morning about seven, the Governor went to the town; from thence we went to Manatawney that night, and the next day to Philadelphia."

It will be perceived by the date of the above incident that it transpired about twelve years previous to the time fixed for the settlement of John Harris in this vicinity. The village (Peixtan) alluded to was evidently the Indian town previously mentioned as having existed on the low ground below the site of the present borough.

#### A CLEARING COMMENCED BY HARRIS, AT THE MOUTH OF THE JUNIATA RIVER.

By the following extract from the Colonial Records, it appears that John Harris was desirous of extending his trading

operations further westward, and with this view had commenced clearing land at the mouth of the Choniata (Juniata) river, about 1732 or 1733:

“JUNE 19, 1733.

“At a Council held at Philadelphia, Shickalamy, a chief, by Conrad Weiser, as Interpreter, asked whether the Proprietor had heard of a letter which he and Sassoonan sent to John Harris, to desire him to desist from making a plantation at the mouth of the Choniata, where Harris has built a house and commenced clearing fields.

“They were told that Harris had only built that house for carrying on his trade; that his plantation, on which he has houses, barns, &c., at Peixtan, is his place of dwelling, and it is not to be supposed he will remove from thence; that he has no warrant or order for making a settlement on Choniata.

“Shekallamy\* said that though Harris may have built a house for the convenience of his trade, yet he ought not to clear fields. To this it was answered that Harris had only cleared as much land as would be sufficient to raise corn for his horses. Shekallamy said that he had no ill will to John Harris; it was not his custom to bear ill will; but he is afraid that the warriors of the Six Nations, when they pass that way, may take it ill to see a settlement made on lands which they had always desired to be kept free from any person settling upon. He was told in answer that care should be taken to give the necessary orders in it.”

\* “Shekallamy was an Indian of much consequence among the Five Nations. He was the father of the celebrated Logan. It appears he was a Cayuga Sachem, and styled by Loskiel, ‘First Magistrate and head Chief of all the Iroquois Indians living on the banks of the Susquehanna, as far as Onondago.’ He died at Shamokin, his residence, in 1749. He had been a great friend to Moravian Missionaries.”—*I. D. Rupp's History of Dauphin County.*

## HARRIS' REAL ESTATE POSSESSIONS.

George W. Harris, Esq., a great grandson of John Harris, relates "that the latter was once offered by the Penns all of the land from the western shore of the Susquehanna to Silver Spring, and extending across the Cumberland Valley from mountain to mountain, for £5,000. He offered £3,500, and refused to give more. At his death he owned about 900 acres of land, including the present site of Harrisburg; also 200 acres on the opposite shore, mostly owned by Judge Hummel, and including the old ferry-landing and Gen. Simpson's place below Yellow Breeches creek, extending to the South mountain, including Shreiner's Island; and seven or eight hundred acres at the mouth of the Conodoguinet creek, on the upper side, once the site of an Indian town."

## PRESENCE OF MIND AND BRAVERY OF HARRIS' WIFE.

The same gentleman also narrates the following anecdotes of Esther, the wife of John Harris, which establishes the promptness and energetic character of that lady:

"The mansion house, situated on the river bank, as before mentioned, was surrounded by a stockade, for security against the Indians. An English officer was one night at the house, when by accident the gate of the stockade was left unfastened. The officer, clothed in his regimentals, was seated with Mr. Harris and his wife at the table. An Indian entered the gate of the stockade and thrust his rifle through one of the port-holes of the house, and it is supposed pointed it at the officer. The night being damp, the gun simply *flashed*. Instantly, Mrs. Harris blew out the candle, to prevent the Indian aiming a second time, and he retreated."

Watson, in his "Annals," alludes to this affair as follows:

"We hear, says the editor of the Pennsylvania Gazette, July

20, 1758, from Harris' Ferry, that on Sunday night last, as Mr. Harris and some people were sitting in a room, a gun was attempted to be fired at them through a loop-hole, but luckily it happened not to go off, upon which the neighborhood was alarmed by some guns from the fort, and the next morning the track of an Indian was seen."

#### A DANGEROUS CANDLESTICK.

"It has been observed that John Harris kept articles for trade with the Indians. At one period, Mrs. Harris had an Irish girl in her employ. On one occasion she was sent up stairs for some purpose, and she took with her a piece of lighted candle, without a candlestick. The girl soon came down without the candle, and on Mrs. Harris asking her what she had done with it, replied she had stuck it into the barrel of *Flaxseed*. This, however, happened to be a barrel of *Powder*! Mrs. Harris instantly rose, and without saying a word, for fear of alarming the girl, went up stairs, and advancing to the barrel, cautiously placed her hands under the candle and lifted it out, and then coolly reproved the girl for her carelessness.

#### AN INDIAN'S REVENGE.

"A party of Indians from the Susquehanna, at one time went off on a war or predatory excursion against the Southern Indians. In the course of the expedition a hostile Indian was killed, and one of his relatives determined upon revenge. He is said to have come from the Catawba, in South Carolina. He came alone, and eventually reached the bank of the river opposite the present site of Harrisburg. He there secreted himself to observe the fording place, and watching an opportunity of glutting his revenge. Having observed the ford, below the island now owned by General Foster, he one night crossed the river, and cautiously approached the Indian town a short dis-

tance below. As he advanced, a dog barked, and an aged squaw came to the door of one of the wigwams to ascertain the cause of the disturbance. The Indian leaped forward, and sinking his hatchet into her brain, he drew his knife and scalped her; then raising the war-whoop, he ran to the river, leaped into a canoe and started for the opposite shore. The town was aroused and the warriors gave chase, but though closely pursued, it is said he escaped, and bore away in triumph the bloody trophy, the evidence of his courage and barbarity."—*G. W. Harris, Esq.*

#### WILLIAM PENN'S CITY ON THE SUSQUEHANNA.

In the year 1690, William Penn issued proposals for a second settlement, or city, upon the Susquehanna. Where the proposed city was to be located, or what was the reason for his relinquishing the plan, is not known; but as the site subsequently occupied by Mr. Harris was at that period on the great, and indeed the only, highway to Western Pennsylvania, besides being the *nearest available point* for communication with the Schuylkill river, which is looked to in the proposals, there is every reason to believe that it was the point selected for that purpose.

The following are the proposals, extracted from Hazzard's Register, for 1828:

*"Some Proposals for a second Settlement in the Province of Pennsylvania.*

Whereas, I did, about nine years past, propound the selling of several parts or shares of land, upon that side of the Province of Pennsylvania next Delaware river, and setting out of a place upon it for the building of a city, by the name of Philadelphia; and that divers persons closed with those proposals, who, by their ingenuity, industry and charge, have advanced that city, from a wood, to a good forwardness of building (there



being above one thousand houses finished in it) and that the several plantations and towns begun upon the land, bought by those first undertakers, are also in a prosperous way of improvement and enlargement (insomuch as last year ten sail of ships were freighted there, with the growth of the Province for Barbados, Jamaica, &c., besides what came directly for this kingdom.) It is now my purpose to make another settlement, upon the river of Susquehannagh, that runs into the Bay of Chesapeake, and bears about fifty miles west from the river Delaware, as appears by the Common Maps of the English Dominion in America. There I design to lay out a plan for the building of another City, in the most convenient place for communication with the former plantations on the East: which by land, is as good as done already, a way being laid out between the two rivers very exactly and conveniently, at least three years ago; and which will not be hard to do by water, by the benefit of the river Scoukill; for a Branch of that river lies near a Branch that runs into Susquehannagh River, and is the Common Course of the Indians with their Skins and Furr's into our Parts, and to the Provinces of East and West Jersey, and New York, from the West and North west parts of the continent from whence they bring them.

And I do also intend that every one who shall be a Purchaser in this proposed settlement, shall have a proportionable Lot in the said City to build a House or Houses upon; which Town-Ground, and the Shares of Land that shall be bought of me, shall be delivered clear of all Indian Pretensions; for it has been my way from the first, to purchase their title from them, and so settle with their consent.

The Shares I dispose of, contain each, Three Thousand Acres for £100, and for greater or lesser quantities after that rate: The acre of that Province is according to the Statute of the 33th of Edw. 1. And no acknowledgement or Quit Rent shall be paid by the Purchasers till five years after a settlement be

made upon their Lands, and that only according to the quantity of acres so taken up and seated, and not otherwise; and only then to pay but one shilling for every hundred acres for ever. And further I do promise to agree with every Purchaser that shall be willing to treat with me between this and next spring, upon all such reasonable conditions as shall be thought necessary for their accommodation, intending, if God please, to return with what speed I can, and my Family with me, in order to our future Residence.

To conclude, that which particularly recommends this Settlement, is the known goodness of the soyll and scituation of the Land, which is high and not mountainous; also the Pleasantness, and Largeness of the River being clear and not rapid, and broader than the Thames at London bridge, many miles above the Place intended for this Settlement; and runs (as we are told by the Indians) quite through the Province, into which many fair rivers empty themselves. The sorts of Timber that grow there are chiefly oak, ash, chesnut, walnut, cedar, and poplar. The native Fruits are pawpaws, grapes, mulbery's, chesnuts, and several sorts of walnuts. There are likewise great quantities of Deer, and especially Elks, which are much bigger than our Red Deer, and use that River in Herds. And Fish there is of divers sorts, and very large and good, and in great plenty.

But that which recommends both this Settlement in particular, and the Province in general, is a late Pattent obtained by divers Eminent Lords and Gentlemen for that Land that lies north of Pennsylvania up to the 46th Degree and an half, because their Traffick and Intercourse will be chiefly through Pennsylvania, which lies between that Province and the Sea. We have also the comfort of being the Center of all the English colonies upon the Continent of America, as they lie from the North East parts of New England to the most Southerly parts of Carolina, being above 1000 miles upon the Coast.

If any Persons please to apply themselves to me by letter in relation to this affair, they may direct them to Robert Ness, Scrivener in Lumber street in London for Philip Ford, and suitable answers will be returned by the first opportunity. There are also Instructions printed for information of such as intend to go, or send servants, or families thither, which way they may proceed with most ease and advantage, both here and there, in reference to Passage, Goods, Utensels, Building, Husbandry, Stock, Subsistence, Traffick, &c. being the effect of their expence and experiance that have seen the Fruit of their Labours.

WM. PENN."

"Printed and sold by Andrew Sowle, at the crooked Billet in Halloway Lane, Shore Ditch 1690."

#### REV. GEORGE WHITEFIELD AT HARRIS' FERRY.

A granddaughter of John Harris, Sr., related that when the celebrated preacher, George Whitefield, was passing through Pennsylvania, about the year 1740, he remained some time in and about Harris' Ferry, and preached repeatedly to the people, who flocked from all quarters to hear him. So great was the fascination of his eloquence, that many of the people neglected the cultivation of their farms, and their fields were left unsown. Mr. Harris remonstrated with them, but ineffectually; and the consequences of their improvidence were likely to prove serious, since not a few, at the end of the season, found themselves in want. Seeing their destitute condition, Mr. Harris sent a considerable quantity of grain to the nearest mill, and gave directions that meal should be furnished to any of his poor neighbors who might apply for it. Thus were the families of those who had not listened to the prudent counsels of Harris saved from distress by his liberal kindness.

## INDIAN VISITORS.

In Gordon's History of Pennsylvania, mention is made of a party of Indians, consisting of twenty-one Onondagöes and seven Oneidas, under the command of a Captain of the former nation, who arrived at Harris' Ferry in 1742, on an excursion against the Tallapoosas, resident in Virginia. They left their canoes here, and, procuring a pass or letter of protection from a magistrate of Lancaster county, travelled through the Province, obtaining provisions from the inhabitants.

Harris' Ferry, or Paxton, was often visited by the Indians, Agents, &c., for consultation with the Provincial authorities. Conrad Weiser, a distinguished Indian Agent, upon one occasion wrote to the Secretary of the Provincial Council, as follows :

*"To Richard Peters, Esq.:*

SIR: Last night I arrived here with the Indians, all in good health but Canachquasey, the speaker, who took sick by the way to my house, and one of the women, but I hope not dangerously.

This day I delivered the goods to them, and they are well pleased for my adding two half-barrels of powder to the four which they were to have. George Croghan was present, and he undertook to find men and horses to carry the powder and lead, with two casks of liquor with them, to the Ohio. I was obliged to allow them the liquor, because they all followed my advice, and did not get drunk neither in town (Philadelphia) nor by the way.

Scaiohady, after they had received the goods, spoke to me in the following manner :

'BROTHER: I am very glad that our brethren in Philadelphia took into their serious consideration what we have said to them. The French party is very strong among us, and if we

had failed in our journey to Philadelphia, or our expectations would not have been granted by our brethren in Philadelphia, the Indians would have gone over to the French to a man, and would have received presents or supplies from the French, who have offered it; but now I hope we have got the better of them. Let me desire you to set out early in the spring with the supplies our brethren have been pleased to promise us, and send somebody before you to give us timely notice, that we may meet you, for we are scattered up and down the country, and we will send three or four men to meet you by the way, and to convey you to the place appointed.

Pray don't miss, and let us, that are for our brethren the English, not be ashamed; the French party, who speak now under ground, will speak above the ground if you should miss; but if you arrive early in the spring, all the Indians will unite heartily, and the French party will be brought over to us.'

Then he spoke to George Croghan and me, who must be my guide. I made answer, 'that nothing should be wanting that I could do, and if I was alive and well I hoped to see them in their country next spring before the grass comes out, or at farthest, when they begin to plant their corn.'

Scaiohady pressed upon me to put the Government in mind of *what he had said against the traders in rum, that it might be suppressed*; 'For the Indians,' said he, 'will drink away all they have, and not be able to do anything against the enemy for want of ammunition;' and if rightly considered, *death, without Judge or Jury*, to any man that carries rum to sell to any Indian town, is the only remedy to prevent that trade; and a just reward to the traders, for nothing else will do. It is an abomination before God and man, to say nothing of the particular consequences. It is altogether hurtful to the public, for what little supplies we can give them to carry on the war is not half sufficient; they must buy the greatest part with their hunting, and if they meet with rum they will buy that before any-

thing, and not only drink away their skins, but their clothing, and even everything they may get of us; in short, the inconveniences occasioned by that trade are numerous at this very time. The English and French party will fall out in their drunkenness, and murder one and another, and the English will be charged with the mischief thereof. I must leave off before I wear out your patience.

Sir, your very dutiful,

CONRAD WEISER.

P. S. Scaiohady told Shikamy, at my house, very privately, that Peter Chartier and his company had accepted of the French hatchet, but kept it in their bosom till they could see what interest they could make in favor of the French."

#### DEATH OF JOHN HARRIS, SR.

John Harris, Sr., died in 1748, about the month of December, and was buried where he had directed, under the shade of his own memorable tree. The John Harris hereafter mentioned, as stated previously, was born in 1727. He was twice married. His first wife's name was Elizabeth McClure, and his second, Mary Reed, by both of whom he had children. His second wife, Mary, died November 6, 1787.

#### GRANT OF THE FERRY RIGHT.

The following is a copy of the original grant to John Harris, Jr., of the right to have a ferry over the Susquehanna:

"Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute proprietaries and governors in chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware. To all unto whom these presents shall come, greeting: WHEREAS it hath been represented to us that the frequent passing and repassing of people over our river Susquehanna hath made it necessary that ferries should be erected and

established at proper places for the ready carrying over our said River, all travellers and other persons whose business and affairs may call them into these parts of our said province; And it being made known to us that the plantation and tract of land belonging to John Harris of the County of Lancaster, Yeomen lying on the East side of the said River Susquehanna in the township of Pextang and county aforesaid by means of the convenient situation thereof is a proper place for erecting and keeping a ferry for that part of our said Province, and the said John Harris having requested our license for erecting and maintaining a ferry over the said river at the place aforesaid, and that we would be pleased to grant him the same for a certain term of years therein expressed. Now KNOW YE, that in consideration of the charge and expense that must arise on providing of necessary flats and boats and constant attendance requisite thereunto, We have given granted and confirmed and by these presents for us and our heirs, do give grant and confirm unto the said John Harris, his executors administrators and assigns the sole privilege of keeping and occupying the said ferry over the said river at the place aforesaid where a ferry has always been kept for the carrying over of all persons, wagons, carts, horses and cattle traveling or passing that way, hereby strictly forbidding and prohibiting all other persons on either side of the said River from carrying over the same within the distance of one mile and a quarter above and below the ferry hereby settled and established for hire pay or reward in any flat, boat or canoe, any persons or travellers, wagons, carts, horses or cattle as aforesaid: And we do further give and grant unto the said John Harris his executors, administrators and assigns during the term of this grant to take and receive from all persons passing over the said river for themselves, waggons, carts, horses and cattle all such reasonable toll fees or reward as hath heretofore been accustomed or shall be hereafter settled for the same (Us, our heirs and successors and our Lieutenant Governor attendants

and servants only excepted), To have and hold the said Ferry privileges and profits hereby granted unto the said John Harris his Executors administrators and assigns from the first day of March next unto the full end and term of seven years from thence next ensuing and fully to be complete and ended yielding and paying for the same yearly unto us our heirs and successors at the town of Lancaster in the said County at or upon the first day of March in every year during the said term ten English silver shillings or the value thereof in coin current according as the exchange shall then be between our said province and the city of London to such person or persons as shall from time to time be appointed to receive the same: *Provided* always and these presents are upon this condition and limitation that the said John Harris his executors, administrators or assigns shall from time to time and at all times hereafter, during the said term continue to keep or cause to be kept a Boat or Boats, Scow or Scows in good sufficient repair with good and sufficient persons or hands to give attendance for the transporting, ferrying or carrying over of all passengers, waggons, carts, horses and cattle aforesaid according to the true intent and meaning hereof otherwise this present grant and every other matter and thing contained therein, shall cease determine and be void to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

Witness James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said province who by virtue of Certain Powers and authorities to him for this purpose *inter alia* granted by the said proprietaries, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the great seal of the said province to be hereunto affixed at Philadelphia this fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty three, the twenty sixth year of the reign of King George ye second over Great Britain &c. and ye thirty fifth year of ye sd. Proprietaries government."

JAMES HAMILTON. [L. s.]

Recorded ye 19th Feb 1758.



## DEATH OF HALF-KING AT HARRIS' FERRY.

Half-King, also called Tanachrisson, of whom frequent mention is made in the Colonial Records, arrived, sick, at the residence of John Harris, Jr., the 1st of October, 1754, and died on the night of the 4th following, and was buried with due obsequies by Mr. Harris. During the Half King's illness, his Indian followers procured a conjurer to ascertain the nature of his illness and death, believing that the French had bewitched him.

Immediately after the death of this warrior, Mr. Harris wrote the following letter to Governor Hamilton :

"PAXTON Oct. 2, 1754.

*"May it please your honor :*

At the earnest request of Monacatootha, one of the chiefs of the Six Nations, I take this opportunity to inform your Honor of the death of Half-King, who departed this life last night. There are about twenty Indians here who wait to see him buried, and then intend for Aughwick immediately; he likewise desired that the melancholly news might be forwarded with all possible dispatch to his Honor the Governor of Virginia. These Indians that are here blame the French for his death, by bewitching him, as they had a conjurer to inquire into the cause a few days before he died; and it is his opinion, together with his relations, that the French had been the cause of this great man's death, by reason of his striking them lately, for which they seem to threaten immediate revenge, and desired me to let it be known. All the Indians that are here are in great trouble, especially his relations. I have sent an account to Conrad Weiser, at Shamokin, this day, who I expect will be down upon notice. I humbly presume that his is a very great loss, especially at this critical time.

I am, &c.,

JOHN HARRIS."

The Half-King, it appears, was a man of much consequence among the Indians. Rupp says that "he had his residence at Logg's Town, on the Ohio, fourteen miles below Pittsburg, on the opposite side. George Washington visited him in 1753, and desired him to relate some of the particulars of a journey he had shortly before made to the French commandant at Fort Duquesne." Monacatootha was also visited by Washington at Logg's Town.

The followers of the Half-King allowed Mr. Harris to bury him as he thought proper, which was done much to their satisfaction.

Shortly after this event, Mr. Harris visited Philadelphia, where he wrote the following letter to Mr. Peters, Secretary of the Provincial Council :

"PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 29, 1754.

"SIR : On the first of this instant, Monacatootha and several others, the chiefs of the Six Nations, came to my house, and brought the Half King and his family along with them, who were in general in a very low condition, particularly himself, who died in a few days ; after which I asked Monacatootha, and others, where they chused to bury him, and in what manner, or if they wanted anything necessary for his funeral ? Their answer was, that they looked upon him to be like one of ourselves, and as he died amongst us, we might bury him as we thought proper ; that if he was buried well, it would be very good ; which I did much to their satisfaction.

Immediately after, Monacatootha and the chiefs set off for Aughwick, leaving the Half-King's family and their relations under my care, saying that in a short time there should some horses and Indians come down for them, which they had not yet done, and I have been at expenses for their provisions, and his funeral. My account I shall send down, which I hope you will be pleased to lay before the Assembly. I shall continue to give

his family provisions till they remove, and should be satisfied how soon that might be.

"I conclude, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,  
JOHN HARRIS."

"Dec. 17, Post Meridian, 1754.—The Committee of Accounts reported a balance of ten pounds, fifteen shillings and four pence due to the said John Harris for his expenses, and five pounds for his trouble, &c., in burying the Half-King, and maintaining the sundry Indians that were with him."—*Votes of Assembly, 1754.*

It is not known how long Half-King's family remained with Mr. Harris. They were still there in December following Half-King's death.

#### THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR—ALARM OF THE SETTLERS.

The hostilities that were openly declared between the French and English in 1744, marked the close of the peaceful era in Pennsylvania, and the dark cloud of savage warfare began to gather on the western frontier. An alarming crisis was at hand. The French, hovering around the lakes, sedulously applied themselves to seduce the Indians from their allegiance to the English. The Shawanees had already joined them; the Delawares only awaited an opportunity to do so; and of the Six Nations, the Onandagoes, Cayugas and Senecas were wavering. The French were fortifying the strong points of the Ohio. To keep the Indians in favor of the Colony required shrewd diplomacy and expensive presents.

The Indians who joined the French, instigated by their new allies, committed many fearful depredations among the peaceful settlers, killing and scalping, or carrying off as prisoners, all who were so unfortunate as to fall into their hands. The inhabitants of Paxton, from their defenceless position, were early alarmed

at these sanguinary forays, and heartily joined with the neighboring districts in the following petition to the Governor and Council, praying for succor :

“JULY 22, 1754.

“The humble petition of the inhabitants of the townships of Paxton, Derry and Hanover, Lancaster county, humbly sheweth : that your petitioners, being settled on and near the river Susquehanna, apprehend themselves in great danger from the French and French Indians, as it is in their power several times in the year to transport themselves, with ammunition, artillery, and every necessary, down the said river ; and their conduct of late to the neighboring Provinces increases our dread of a speedy visit from them, as we are as near and convenient as the Provinces already attacked, and are less capable of defending ourselves, as we are unprovided with arms and ammunition, and unable to purchase them. A great number are warm and active in these parts for the defence of themselves and country, were they enabled so to do, (although not such a number as would be able to withstand the enemy,) we, your petitioners, therefore humbly pray that your Honor would take our distressed condition into consideration, and make such provision for us as may prevent ourselves and families from being destroyed and ruined by such a cruel enemy ; and your petitioners as in duty will ever pray.

Thos. Florster, Jas. Armstrong, John Harris, Thos. Simpson, Samuel Simpson, John Carson, David Shields, Wm. M<sup>c</sup>Mullin, John Cuoit, Wm Armstrong, Wm. Bell, Jno. Daugherty, Jas. Atkin, And. Cochran, James Reed, Thos. Rutherford, T. M<sup>c</sup>Carter, Wm. Steel, Samuel Hunter, Thos. Mayes, James Coler, Henry Remmicks, Richard M<sup>c</sup>Clure, Thos. Dugan, John Johnson, Peter Flemming, Thos. Sturgeon, Mathew Taylor, Jeremiah Sturgeon, Thos. King, Robert Smith, Adam Reed, Jno. Crawford, Thos. Craw-

ford, Jno. M'Clure, Thos. Hume, Thos. Steene, Jno. Hume, Jno. Creage, Thos. M'Cleur, Wm. M'Cleur, Jno. Rodgers, James Peterson, Jno. Young, Ez. Sankey, Jno. Florster, Mitchel Graham, Jas. Toalen, Jas. Galbraith, Jas. Campel, Robert Boyd, Jas. Chambers, Robert Armstrong, Jno. Campel, Hugh Black, Thos. Black.

This petition read in Council 6th August, 1754."

Some of the present citizens of Harrisburg will not fail to notice the names of their ancestors in the foregoing list.

#### LETTERS FROM JOHN HARRIS, JR., AND OTHERS, ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

We extract, in chronological order, from the Colonial Records and Archives, the following letters from John Harris and others, written in the years 1754-'55-'56, which gives a lively picture of the condition of this vicinity during these exciting periods :

"PAXTON Dec. 28 1754

"SIR—This week Capt. Andrew Montour has made his interest so good with my brother Wm. Harris, as to persuade him to go with him to our camp, and he engages that he shall receive a Lieutenant's command under him, upon the strength of which, and the willingness to serve his king and country, he resolves to go. Their company of white men I expect to have completed by Monday next, or the day following; they expect to march for Wills' creek by the way of Aughwick, in order to take a number of Indians with them. Some Indians that are here leave their families, and set off with them with all cheerfulness; and I'll ensure upon my brother's inclining to go, the young men about here inlisted immediately with the small encouragement I gave them, which was but my duty, and I hope that this company will act their part so well as to be a credit to our *River Men*, of which almost the whole consists. It is rumored here

that there are now taken prisoners lately at our camp, fifteen French Indians. Upon what I hear our Indians at Aughwick are to go and determine their fate, either death or Liberty. I only mention this, but am not yet certain of the fact.

[Excuse blunders.]

Your very humble servant,

JOHN HARRIS.

EDWARD SHIPPEN, Lancaster."

"PAXTON Dec. 30 1754

"SIR—I design to-morrow to march with my men raised here for Wills' creek by the way of Aughwick. I leave under the care of John Harris two Indian families, one of which has been at his house since the death of Half King, and has been so kindly treated that they don't care to move to Aughwick at this cold season, and they may be as cheap maintained here. I ordered John Harris to provide for them after the frugalist manner. All the men of the aforesaid Indian families go to the camp with me cheerfully, and are of the Mingoos, and were at the skirmish when Laforce was taken and his men. I expect to take a number of Indians along with me from Aughwick to the camp, where I design to be with them. I'll assure you John Harris's kind usage to the Indians this fall has been of much service, and ought to be properly recorded. I hope Monacattootha has before this time left your city on his way for the Six Nations. The good accounts from England lately will spirit up our Indians much, and I trust have its desired effect.

I am, sir, your most obed't, humble serv't,

ANDREW MONTOUR.

RICHARD PETERS, Esq."

Conrad Weiser, at the request of Governor Morris, came to this place in August, 1755, where he found "Little" or "Old Belt," and "Seneca George," both noted Indian warriors.

## INDIAN MASSACRES AT MAHANOEY CREEK.

On the 15th of October, 1755, a party of hostile Indians fell upon the inhabitants at Mahanoy, or Penn's creek, Union county, and killed and carried off about twenty-five persons, besides burning their buildings and improvements.

## LETTERS FROM JOHN HARRIS IN REFERENCE TO THE MASSACRE.

"PAXTON Oct. 20, 1755.

*"May it please your honor :*

I was informed last night by a person that came down our river that there was a dutch (German) woman who made her escape to George Gabriels, and informs us that last Friday evening, on her way home from this settlement, on Mahahony, or Penn's creek, where her family lived, she called at a neighbor's house, and saw two persons lying at the door of said house murdered and scalped ; and there were some Dutch (German) families that lived near their places, immediately left not thinking it safe to stay any longer. It is the opinion of the people up the river that the families on Penn's creek being scattered, that but few in number are killed or carried off, except the above said women, the certainty of which will soon be known, as there are some men gone out to bury the dead.

By report this evening I was likewise informed by the belt of wampum, and these Indians here, there were seen near Shamokin about six days ago, two French Indians of the Canawago tribe. I a little doubted the truth of the report at first ; but the Indians have seemed so afraid that they dispatched messengers immediately to the mountains above my house to bring in some of their women that were gathering chestnuts for fear of their being killed.

By a person just arrived down our river, brought information

of two men being murdered within five miles of George Gabriels, and it is imagined that all the inhabitants on Penn's creek and Little Mahanoy are killed or carried off, as most of them live much higher up, where the first murder was discovered. The Indian warriors here send you these two strings of white wampum and the women the black one, both requesting that you will lay by all your council pipes, immediately, and open all your eyes and ears, and view your slain people in this land, and to put a stop to it immediately, and come to this place to our assistance without any delay; and the belt of wampum particularly mentions that the proprietors and your honor would immediately act in defence of their country, as the old chain of friendship now is broken by several nations of Indians, and it seems to be such as they never expected to see or hear of. Any delay on our acting vigorously now at this time would be the loss of all Indian interest, and perhaps our ruin in these parts.

I am your Honor's

Most obed't ser't

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S. I shall endeavor to get a number of my neighbors to go out as far as the murder has been committed; and perhaps to Shamokin to know the minds of the Indians, and their opinions of these times; and to get what intelligence I can from them, and to encourage some of their young men to scout about, back of the frontiers, to give us notice of the enemy's approach, if possible, at any time hereafter. I heartily wish your honor and the Assembly would please to agree on some method at this time towards protecting this province, as this part of it seems actually in danger now; for should but a company of Indians come and murder but a few families hereabouts, which is daily expected, the situation we are in would oblige numbers to abandon their plantations, and our cattle and provisions, which we have a plenty of, must then fall a prey to the enemy.

Our Indians here seem much discouraged at the large num-



bers of families passing here every day on account of the late murders on the Potomack, and will be much more so if it should happen to be our case. There were two Indian women set out from here two days ago for the Ohio, to bring some of their relations (as they say) down here; and should the French, or their Indians hear by them, as they will be enquiring for news, the effect that their late murders has had among our inhabitants, it will be a matter of encouragement to them.

I conclude your honor's

Most obed't and most humble ser't

JOHN HARRIS."

"PAXTON October 28, 1755.

*"To Richard Peters :*

SIR : I received your letter, and shall observe the contents. There is melancholy news, concerning which I have written to his Honor, the Governor. If there were encouragement for 1000 or 1500 men to meet the enemy and build a fort some place up the Susquehanna, I imagine a number of men will go at their own expense to assist.

I am sir your humble serv't

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S. I shall endeavor to keep out a number of Mohawks, that are here, as spies. The "Belt" promised to send out some; but it was our river Indians, and some scouts from the French army, attacked us at Mr. Penn's creek.

Yours,

J. H.

#### EXPEDITION OF THE PAXTONIANS TO MAHANOEY CREEK.

On the 23d of October following this massacre, upwards of forty of the inhabitants of Paxton went to Mahanoy, or Penn's creek, for the purpose of inquiry and burying the dead. The

following declaration, from one of the party, gives the result of the expedition :

"I and Thomas Forster, Esq., Mr. Harris, and Mr. McKee, with upwards of forty men, went to Capt. McKee at New Providence, in order to bury the dead, lately murdered on Mahahony creek ; but understanding the corpses were buried, we then determined to return immediately home. But being urged by John Sekalamy and the "Old Belt" to go up to see the Indians at Shamokin and know their minds, we went on the 24th, and staid there all night—and in the night I heard some Delawares talking—about twelve in number—to this purpose :

"What are the English came here for?" Says another, "To kill us, I suppose." "Can we not then send off some of our nimble young men to give our friends notice that can soon be here?" They soon after sang the war song, and four Indians went off, in two canoes, well armed—the one canoe went down the river, and the other across.

On the morning of the 25th, we took our leave of the Indians, and set off homewards, and were advised to go down the East side of the river, but fearing that a snare might be laid on that side, we marched off peaceably on the west side, having behaved in the most civil and friendly manner towards them while with them ; and when we came to the mouth of Mahanoy creek, we were fired on by a good number of Indians that lay among the bushes ; on which we were obliged to retreat, with the loss of several men ; the particular number I cannot exactly mention ; but I am positive that I saw four fall, and one man struck with a tomyhawk on the head in his flight across the river. As I understand the Delaware tongue, I heard several of the Indians that were engaged against us speak a good many words in that tongue during the action.

ADAM TERRANCE."

"The above declaration was attested by the author's voluntary

qualification, no magistrate being present, at Paxton, this 26th day of October, 1755, before us.

Jno. Elder, Thos. McArthur, Michael Graham, Alex. McClure, Michael Teass, Wm. Harris, Thos. Black, Sam'l Lennis, Samuel Pearson, Wm. McClure.

N. B. Of all our people that were in the action, there are but nine that are yet returned."

#### THE INDIANS ADVANCING.

HEIDELBURG Oct. 26, at 11 o'clock night 1755.

*Mr. Jas. Reed—Loving Friend :*

About one hour ago I recived the news of the enemy having crossed the Susquehanna, and killed a great many people from Thos. M'Kee's down to Hunter's Mills.

Mr. ELDER, the minister at Paxton, wrote to another Presbyterian minister, in the neighborhood of Adam Reed, Esq The people were then in a meeting, and imediately designed to get themselves in readiness to oppose the enemy, and lend assistance to their neighbors. \* \* \*

Yours,

CONRAD WEISER."

#### JOHN HARRIS TAKES THE FIELD.

On the 28th of October, 1755, John Harris wrote the following letter to Governor Morris :

"PAXTON Oct. 28, 1755.

*"May it please your Honor :*

This is to acquaint you that on the 24th of October, I arrived at Shamokin, in order to protect our frontiers (people?) up that way till they might make their escape from their cruel enemies; and learn the best intelligence I could.

The Indians on the West branch of the Susquehannah cer-

tainly killed our inhabitants on Penn's creek; and there are a hatchet and two English scalps sent by them up the North Branch, to desire them to strike with them, if they are men.

The Indians are all assembling themselves at Shamokin to counsel; a large body of them was there four days ago. I cannot learn their intentions; but it seems Andrew Montour and Mona-ca-too-tha are to bring down the news from them. There is not a sufficient number of them to oppose the enemy; and perhaps they will join the enemy against us. There is no dependence on Indians; and we are in imminent danger.

I got certain information from Andrew Montour and others, that there is a body of French with fifteen hundred Indians, coming upon us, Picks, Ottaways, Onandox, Delawares, Shawanese, and a number of the Six Nations; and are now not many days march from this Province and Virginia, which are appointed to be attacked; at the same time some of the Shamokin Indians seem friendly, and others appear like enemies.

Montour knew many days ago of the enemy being on their march against us, before he informed; for which I said as much to him as I thought prudent, considering the place I was in.

On the 25th inst., on my return with about forty men, we were attacked by twenty or thirty Indians—received their fire, and about fifteen of our men and myself took to the trees, attacked the villians and killed four upon the spot, and lost but three more—retreating about half a mile through the woods, and crossing the Susquehanna, one of whom was shot off an horse riding behind myself, through the river. My horse was wounded, and failing in the river, I was obliged to quit him, and swim part of the way.

Four or five of our men were drowned crossing the river. I hope our journey, though with fatigue, and loss of our substance, and some of our lives, will be of service to our country, by discovering our enemy, who will be our ruin if not timely prevented.

I just now received information that there was a French officer, supposed Captain, with a party of Shawanese, Delawares, &c., within six miles of Shamokin, ten days ago; and no doubt intends taking possession of it, which will be a dreadful consequence to us, if suffered. Therefore I thought proper to dispatch this message to inform your honor. The Indians here, I hope your Honor, will be pleased to cause them to be removed to some place, as I do [not] like their company; and as the men of those here were not against us, yet did them no harm, or else I would have them all cut off. Belt (Indian so called) promised at Shamokin, to send out spies to view the enemy, and upon hearing of our skirmishes, Old Belt was in a rage, gathered up thirty Indians immediately and went in pursuit of the enemy, as I am this day informed.

I expect Montour and Mona-ca-too-tha down here this week, with the determination of their Shamokin Council. The inhabitants are abandoning their plantations, and we are in a dreadful situation.

I am, &c.,

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S. The night ensuing our attack the Indians burnt all George Gabriel's houses—danced around them."

#### JOHN HARRIS AND HIS FAMILY THREATENED WITH DEATH.

"PAXTON, Oct. 29, 1755.

*"Edward Shippen, Esq.:*

SIR: We expect the enemy upon us every day, and the inhabitants are abandoning their plantations, being greatly discouraged at the approach of such a number of cruel savages, and no present sign of assistance. I had a certain account of fifteen hundred French and Indians being on their march against us and Virginia, and now close upon our borders; their scouts scalping our families on our frontiers daily. Andrew Montour and others at Shamokin desired me to take care, that there was a party of forty Indians out many days, and intended to burn

*my house and destroy myself and family.* I have this day cut loop-holes in my house, and am determined to hold out to the last extremity if I can get some men to stand by me. But few can be had at present, as every one is in fear of his own family being cut off every hour. Great part of the Susquehanna Indians are no doubt actually in the French interest, and I am informed that a French officer is expected at Shamokin this week with a party of Delawares and Shawanese, no doubt to take possession of our river. We should raise men immediately to build a fort up the river to take possession, and to induce some Indians to join us. We ought also to insist on the Indians to declare for or against us, and as soon as we are prepared for them we should *bid up their scalps*, and keep our woods full of our people upon the scout, else they will ruin our province; for they are a dreadful enemy. I have sent out two Indian spies to Shamokin; they are Mohawks.

Sir; Yours, &c.,

JOHN HARRIS."

The defences which Mr. Harris constructed around his dwelling at this time, are thus noticed by Edward Shippen, in a letter to Governor Morris:

"John Harris has built an excellent stockade around his house, which is the only place of security that way for the provisions of the army, he having much good cellar room; and as he has but six or seven men to guard it, if the Government would order six more men there to strengthen it, it would in my opinion be of great use to the cause."

The late Robert Harris saw the remains of this stockade when he was young.

#### ADDRESS FROM THE SETTLERS.

In October, 1755, the enemy was in the neighborhood of Shamokin in considerable force, and in the month following,

murdered a number of settlers, upon which the people of Paxton published the following address to the inhabitants of the Province :

“JOHN HARRIS’, 12 o’clock P. M.,  
Oct. 31st, 1755.

*“To all his Majesty’s subjects in the Province of Pennsylvania,  
or elsewhere :*

WHEREAS, Andrew Montour, Belt of Wampum, two Mohawks, and other Indians came down this day from Shamokin, who say the whole body of Indians, or the greatest part of them, in the French interest is actually encamped this side of George Gabriels [thirty miles above Harris’ Ferry, on the west side of the river] near Susquehanah, and that we may expect an attack in three days at farthest; and a French fort to be begun at Shamokin in ten days hence. Tho’ this be the Indian report, we, the subscribers, do give it as our advice to repair immediately to the frontiers with all our forces to intercept their passage into our country, and to be prepared in the best manner possible for the worst event.

Witness our hands :

James Galbraith, Jno. Allison, Barney Hughes, Robert Wallace, John Harris, Jas. Pollock, Jas. Anderson, William Work, Patrick Henry.

P. S. They positively affirm that the above named Indians discovered a party of the enemy at Thos. McKee’s upper place on the 30th of October last.

Mona-ca-too-tha, the Belt, and other Indians here insist upon Mr. Weiser coming immediately to John Harris’, and his men, and to council with the Indians.

Before me,

JAS. GALBRAITH.”

Mr. Hamilton informed the Provincial Council that “in November, 1755, he was at John Harris’, and found the people

collected there in the utmost confusion, and in continual fear of being fallen upon by the French and Indians." Houses that had been occupied, barns filled with the fruits of a rich and plentiful harvest, newly sowed fields, and standing corn, were all abandoned by the hardy and industrious frontier settlers.

"In December, 1755, John Harris, Jr., of Paxton township, in consequence of instructions from George Croghan, continued a guard of thirty-two men upon the frontiers of said township for the space of eighteen days."—*Votes of Assembly.*

#### COUNCIL WITH THE INDIANS AT HARRIS' FERRY.

On the 8th of January, 1756, a council with the Indians was held at the house of John Harris, Jr., in Paxton, composed of Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Governor, James Hamilton, Richard Peters, Secretary, Joseph Fox, and Conrad Weiser, Interpreter; two Indians of the Six Nations, called "The Belt of Wampum," a Seneca, and the "Broken Thigh," a Mohawk.

The Governor addressed the two Indians as follows:

"BRETHREN: I am glad to see you and your families in good health. You have ever been esteemed our hearty friends, and you show you are really so by residing among us at a time when so much mischief is done on every side of the Province.

I sent Mr. Weiser to acquaint you that I had kindled a council fire here, and had invited the Indians on Susquehannah to meet me the beginning of this moon, and that I expected you would stay here till I should come, and afford me your assistance in council.

I thank you for staying here. You see that, agreeable to my message, I come at the time appointed; but I find no other Indians here than you two, and indeed I expect no more, as I believe my messengers were prevented going to Wyomink by



the ravages of the Indians, which began in their neighborhood at the time they were preparing to set out on their journey.

The public business requires my presence at Carlisle, where I am now going, and I invite you to go along with me. If you incline to take any of your families with you, I shall readily agree to it, and provide a carriage for them and you."

To this "The Belt" replied :

"BRETHREN : I thank you for sending for us to council, and for your kind speech. What you have said is very agreeable.

Brethren : The sky is dark all around us. The mischief done to you I consider as done to the Six Nations, and I am sorry for what has happened, and heartily condole with you upon it ; but be not disheartened. As the public business is committed to you, nothing should be suffered to lie on your minds that might in any wise impair your judgment, which is now more necessary than ever. Let me therefore, by this string, intreat you to put away all grief from your heart, and to dry up your tears, that you may think and see clearly when you come to council.

I accept your invitation, and shall follow you to Carlisle."

Gave a string.

At the time this council was held there appears to have been but a single house and few conveniences at Harris' Ferry, and "Mr. Weiser was asked if it might not be better to hold it at Carlisle, where all the business of that county could be done at the same time, and proper entertainment provided, as well for the Governor and his company as for the Indians, should they prove numerous." They then went to Carlisle.

#### THREATENED MURDER OF THE FRIENDLY INDIANS AT HARRIS' FERRY.

Conrad Weiser, in a letter to Governor Morris, dated January 29, 1756, says : "On the 31st of last month, one James Young

came over from Tobias Hendricks', and told me privately, in the presence of John Harris, that above fifteen men with arms came that day to Tobias Hendricks', in order to come to this side of the river to *kill the Indians at John Harris'*, judging them of being guilty or privy to the murder committed in Shearman's valley a few days ago; and that he had much ado to stop them, and desired me to take all the care I possibly could. I took for granted what they said, and sent immediately an express to bring the Indians that remained in Carlisle, since the last treaty, away to Harris' Ferry."

The treaty alluded to was held at Carlisle, in January, 1756, where it was left to the Indians' choice till a fort had been erected at Shamokin, to reside at one or other of the forts then building, or at Harris' Ferry or Conestoga Manor. They chose Harris' Ferry.

#### THE GOVERNOR AGAIN AT HARRIS' FERRY.

After the adjournment of the Assembly, in April, 1756, Governor Morris again visited Harris' Ferry, and in the early part of May issued a message summoning the members of Assembly to convene at Philadelphia. He also signed several bills here, and "affixed the great seal of the Province to the transcribed copies thereof."

In concluding his message to the Assembly, dated Harris' Ferry, May 23, 1756, he says: "I propose to leave this place to-morrow, or on Tuesday at farthest, and hope to be with you by the time you can have any business prepared to lay before me."

#### THE ENEMY INVADE PAXTON.

The storm of Indian warfare which had been so long raging in the neighboring districts, at length spread into the settlements of Paxton and adjoining townships.

"The first assault," says Rupp, "was upon a wagon belonging to a German, in which he was endeavoring to move off; but being killed a small distance behind the wagon, those with the wagon fled to a fort not far distant. The men at the fort being alarmed at the report of the Indians' guns, came to see the occasion of it, and met a woman running towards them, crying; they proceeded to where the wagon stood, and at some distance behind laid the man, tomahawked and scalped, and the brains issuing from the wounds, although he was still breathing."

Murders in Paxton and Derry townships appear to have been an every-day occurrence in August, 1756:

"DERRY TP., 9th Aug., 1756.

SIR: There is nothing but bad news every day. Last week there were two soldiers killed and one wounded, about two miles from Manada fort; and two of the guards that escorted the batteaux were killed. \* \* We shall all be broken in upon in these parts. The people are going off daily, leaving almost their all behind them. \* \* \*

JAMES GALBRAITH.

ED. SHIPPEN, Esq."

"DERRY TP., 10th Aug., 1756.

HONORED SIR: There is nothing here almost every day but murder committed by the Indians in some part or other. About five miles above me, at Manada Gap, there were two of the Province soldiers killed, one wounded. \* \*

Yours,

JAMES GALBRAITH.

P. S. I am in want of the pistols."

The names of some of those murdered and abducted in Paxton, Derry and Hanover townships, are given in the Pennsylvania Gazette of 1755, and are as follows:

Elizabeth Galloway, Henry Gibson, Robert Peer, Wm. Berry.

hill, and David McClelland; Beatty, Flemming's son, and one Hicks, James Mackey, murdered. A son of James Mackey, a son of Joseph Barnet, Elizabeth Dickey and her child, the wife of Samuel Young and her child, John Martin's wife and five children, William Gallway's wife and two children, and a young woman; Chas. Stewart's wife and two children, David McClelland's wife and two children, and Wm. Flemming and wife were taken prisoners.

"Aug. 19, 1757.—Fourteen people killed and taken from Mr. Cinky's congregation, and one man killed near Harris' Ferry."

The Colonial Records and Archives contain numerous letters from Paxton, written at this period, giving accounts of Indian massacres in this neighborhood.

Estherton, the present country seat of Judge Hiester, and Fort Hunter, the present residence of J. C. McAllister, Esq., both a short distance above Harrisburg, were important posts of rendezvous for the early settlers.

#### CONTEMPLATED MASSACRE AT PAXTON CHURCH.

"A party of hostile Indians had come down the river to murder the people of Paxton. They formed a camp in the thicket back of Elder's mill-dam. They designed falling on the people when at worship in Paxton church. They are supposed to have come on Monday, and after waiting several days they came to the conclusion that the congregation would not assemble, and they went off. They left the settlement by the way of Indiantown Gap. On their way off they murdered several persons and took a prisoner, from whom it was afterwards ascertained that they had been encamped here for several days. The people of this congregation, before and afterwards, came to

the church armed ; and Mr. Elder, the pastor, also carried his gun into the pulpit."—*G. W. Harris, Esq.*

The above incident is mentioned in "Webster's History of the Presbyterian Church" as having occurred in 1756. The same authority also states that in 1757 an attack was actually made on the settlers as they were leaving the church, two or three of whom were killed.

Mr. Elder was pastor of the above church when it was first built, about 120 years ago, and preached to that congregation and in the Derry church upwards of 60 years. He was a colonel of the Paxton Rangers, whose duty it was to keep a look out for the Indians, and range the settlements for their protection, from the Blue Mountain to the river. He died at the advanced age of eighty-six, in 1792, on his farm near Harrisburg.

Paxton Church is still standing, about two and a half miles from Harrisburg, near the Hummelstown turnpike, and many of the descendants of the early settlers still continue to worship there.

#### ANOTHER INDIAN COUNCIL AT HARRIS' FERRY.

"A meeting of the Six Nations and their Allies, and George Croghan, Esq., Deputy Agent to the Hon. Sir William Johnson, Baronet, His Majesty's sole Agent and Superintendent of the Six Nations, their allies and their dependents, was held by special order at John Harris', the 1st day of April, 1757. Present—The Rev. John Elder, Capt. Thos. M'Kee, Mr. Jas. Armstrong, Mr. Hugh Crawford, Mr. John Harris, Wm. Pentrup, Interpreter, and warriors from the Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Onondagoes, Nanticokes, Cayugas, Delawares, Senecas, and Conestogoes, with their women and children."

Before this conference had concluded, the council fire was removed to Lancaster, where the remainder of its business was transacted.

## ORIGINAL LETTERS OF JOHN HARRIS, JR.

The following letters are copied *verbatim et literatim* from the original, in the hand-writing of John Harris, Jr., now in the possession of his grandson, David Harris, Esq. :

“PAXTON April 30, 1757.

SIR : I sent you Butter with \* \* \* Hambright last Command w'ch I hope you Received safe. I shall Endeavor to Procure another Crock for you against next trip. I forwarded all the Letters you sent me by \* \* \* to Lancaster Immediately & Capt'n M'Kee was going to Philada. from there, & took them with him, so that there was not the Least Delay. Mr. West wrote me this week that there was an English Packet arrived at Antigua w'ch left Spithead the 26th Feb'ry. \* \* & that there was laying there 200 Transports, Storeships, &c, with 16 Sail of the Line Commanded by Admiral Knowles, which were to sail in a few Days for North America (God send them a Quick & Safe Passage) there is actually arrived at Ft. Cumberland 126 Catawba warriors & 50 or 60 other Indians & a number more Expected who seems Hearty in our Cause. I Expect they'll pay our Cruel Enemys in their own Coin this Sumer I am sir in Hase your most obed't Humble Serv't

JOHN HARRIS.

To Major JAMES BURD att Fort Augusta.”

“PAXTON Nov'r 15, 1757.

“Dr. Sr :

I am Just arrived from Philada. No News of Importance, the Troops from the Northwerd are Part arrived in Philada., such as are to be Quartered there this Winter, & three Companies if not more of the first Battallion of Ye Royal American Riegement from Carlisle is to Pass here Next thursday, on their way to Winter Quarters in Philada., the 2nd Battallion is to soon follow & Remain at Lancaster, Excepting some who is by

the General Report, to be at York, Reading, &c, this Winter. We have acco'ts of our Grand English Fleet Sailing in September last on a Secret Expedition, & good accounts soon Expected from them. No Battles Lately in Europe Except Skirmishing between us, the French, Prusians, Austrians, Rusians, &c, tho' its currently Reported Generally Believed that ab't Seventy thousand Turks is actually on their March against the Queen of Hungary, & a Larger Army of Turks & Tarters is also marching against the Russians, to make a Diversion on the side of Prussia. Good accounts is also Expected from his Prussian Majesty, tho' his Enemy is numerous on all sides the French seems to be yet to strong for the Duke in Hanover but considering the Numbers Greater Strokes might have been Expected from them. We have been Tollerably Quiet on all the Frontiers this Long time (from Indian Incursions) the Barracks in Philada. in Great Forwardness. I am sir your most obed't Humble Serv't

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S. Mrs. Shippen & Mrs. Burd and family's well yesterday.

I am sr. &c.,

J. H.

To Major JAMES BURD at Fort Augusta."

#### THE PAXTONIANS RETALIATE.

The constant scenes of warfare infused a military and adventurous spirit into the young men of this vicinity incompatible with the quiet habits of agricultural life, and we find them, in time of peace, roaming through the mountain wilds as traders, or seeking out rich lands yet unpurchased from the Indians; and in time of war or frontier disturbance, they were ranging the border, watching the movements of the Indians, cutting off occasional parties, and breaking up their haunts. Being beyond the reach of the laws of the Province, as well as beyond the protection of the lower counties, the Paxton men were under

the necessity of protecting themselves, and were governed by usages of their own. Many of their families, as we have shown, had suffered by the tomahawk, and it was suspected by them that the hostile Indians were harbored, if not encouraged, by the friendly Indians at Conestoga, and among the Moravians. A deadly animosity was thus raised among the Paxton men against all of Indian blood, and it was during the height of this feeling that the bloody and unjustifiable massacre was perpetrated at Conestoga.

The following, from "Day's Historical Recollections," combines the substance of the several conflicting statements in regard to this massacre :

"On the night of the 14th December, 1763, a number of armed and mounted men from the townships of Paxton and Donegal, most of them belonging to the company of frontier rangers of those townships, concerted an attack on the Indians at Conestoga, Lancaster county, for the purpose, as they alleged, of securing one or more hostile Indians who were harbored there, and who were supposed to have recently murdered several families of whites. The number of the Paxton men is variously estimated from twenty to upwards of fifty. Few of the Indians were at home, the men probably being absent either in hunting or trading their baskets at Lancaster. In the dead of night the white men fell upon the village. Some defence was doubtless attempted by the few male Indians present, (Dr. Franklin's narrative says there were only three men, two women and a young boy,) but they were overpowered, and the whole, men, women and children, fell victims to the rifle, the tomahawk, and the knife of the frontier men. The dwellings were burned to the ground.

The citizens and magistrates of Lancaster, shocked at the horrible outrage, with commendable humanity gathered the scattered individuals of the tribe who remained, into the stone work-house at Lancaster, where, under bolts and bars, and the strict



supervision of the keeper, they could not doubt but the Indians would be safe until they could be conveyed to Philadelphia for more secure protection.

But the Paxton men were satisfied with nothing short of the extermination of the tribe, alleging, however, that one or two of the hostile Indians were still among the Indians protected by the civil authority at Lancaster. Concealing themselves at night near Lancaster, they waited until the next day, (27th December,) when the whole community was engaged in the solemnities of the sanctuary; then, riding suddenly into town in a gallop, the band seized upon the keeper of the work-house and overpowered him, and rushing into the prison, the work of death was speedily accomplished. The poor Indians, about fourteen in number, were left weltering in gore, while the Paxton men left the town in the same haste with which they entered it. The alarm was raised through the town, but before the citizens could assemble, the "boys" were beyond their reach. In consequence of this affair, the Moravian Indians at Wyalusing and Nain, who had come to Philadelphia for protection, were removed to Province Island, near that city, and placed under the charge of the garrison.

The Paxton men, elated by their recent success, assembled in great numbers early in January, and threatened to march to Philadelphia in a body, and destroy the Indians there. The people of the city were prodigiously alarmed, and several companies of foot, horse and artillery were formed to repel the expected attack. The Paxton men, who had approached the Schuylkill on their march, finding such a force prepared to receive them, returned home."

Rev. John Elder, in a letter to Gov. John Penn, dated Paxton, December 16, 1763, says: "On receiving intelligence, the 13th inst, that a number of persons were assembling on purpose to go and cut off the Conestoga Indians, in concert with Mr. Forster, the neighboring magistrate, I hurried off with a

written message to that party, entreating them to desist from such an undertaking, representing to them the unlawfulness and barbarity of such an action; that it was cruel and unchristian in its nature, and would be fatal in its consequences to themselves and families."

In another letter to Gov. Penn, Rev. Mr. Elder describes Mr. Stewart (one of the Paxton boys) as *humane, liberal and religious*. In a subsequent letter to the Governor, he says: "The storm which had been so long gathering has at length exploded. Had Government removed the Indians from Conestoga, which had frequently been urged without success, this painful catastrophe might have been avoided. What could I do with men heated to madness? All that I could do was done; I expostulated, but life and reason were set at defiance. And yet the men in private life are virtuous and respectable; not cruel, but mild and merciful. The time will come when each palliating circumstance will be calmly weighed. This deed, magnified into the blackest of crimes, shall be considered as one of the youthful ebullitions of wrath caused by momentary excitement, to which human infirmity is subjected."

There is no doubt that the massacre was committed by the younger and more hot-headed members of the Rev. Col. Elder's corps of Rangers, residing at and about Harris' Ferry, joined, as they proceeded on their way to the fated village, by residents of Derry and Donegal townships, who were led on by one Lazarus Stewart, a daring partizan, and a man of considerable influence and standing in the Paxton settlement.

The following extracts are from a series of historical papers written by Redmond Conyngham, Esq., of Lancaster:

"Imagination cannot conceive the perils with which the settlement of Paxton were surrounded from 1754 to 1765. To portray each scene of horror would be impossible; the heart shrinks from the attempt. The settlers were goaded on to desperation; murder followed murder; scouts brought in intelligence that the

murderers were traced to Conestoga. Rifles were loaded, horses were in readiness. They mounted; they called on their pastor to lead them. He was then in the fifty-seventh year of his age. Had you seen him then you would have beheld a superior being. He had mounted, not to lead them on to the destruction of Conestoga, but to deter them from the attempt. He implored them to return; he urged them to reflect; 'pause, pause, before you proceed.' It was in vain; 'the blood of the murdered cries aloud for vengeance; we have waited long enough on Government; the murderers are within our reach, and they must not escape.' Col. Elder reminded them that 'the guilty and innocent cannot be distinguished.' 'Innocent! can they be called innocent who foster murderers?' Mr. Elder rode up in front, and said, 'As your pastor, I command you to relinquish your design.' 'Give way then,' said one Smith, 'or your horse dies,' presenting his rifle. To save his horse, to which he was much attached, Mr. E. drew him aside, and the Rangers were off on their fatal errand."

#### SMITH'S NARRATIVE OF THE MASSACRE.

A Mr. Smith, one of the "Paxton Boys," thus narrated the particulars of the massacre:

"I was an early settler in Paxton, a member of the congregation of the Rev. Mr. Elder. I was one of the chief actors in the destruction of Conestoga, and in storming the workhouse at Lancaster. I have been stigmatized as a murderer. No man, unless he were living at that time in Paxton, could have an idea of the sufferings and anxieties of the people. For years the Indians had been on the most friendly terms; but some of the traders had been bought by the French; these corrupted the Indians. The savages unexpectedly destroyed our dwellings and murdered the unsuspecting. When we visited the wigwams in the neighborhood, we found the Indians occupied

in harmless sports or domestic work. There appeared no evidence that they were in any way instrumental in the bloody acts perpetrated on the frontiers.

Well do I remember the evening when —— stopt at my door; judge my surprise when I heard his tale: 'Four followed the Indians to the Big Island; from thence they went to Conestoga; five of us, ——, ——, ——, ——, ——, rode off for the village. I left my horse under their care, and cautiously crawled where I could get a view. I saw Indians arrived; they were strangers; they outnumbered us by dozens. I returned without being discovered. We meet to-night at ——; we shall expect you with knife, gun and ammunition.' We met, and our party, under cover of night, rode off for Conestoga. Our plan was well laid; the scout who had traced the Indians was with us; the village was stormed and reduced to ashes. The moment we were perceived an Indian fired at us, and rushed forward, brandishing his tomahawk. Tom cried, 'mark him,' and he fell pierced by more than one ball—ran up and cried out, 'it is the villain who murdered my mother.' This speech roused to vengeance, and Conestoga lay harmless before us. Our worst fears had been realized; these Indians, who had been housed and fed as the *pets* of the Province, were now proved to be our secret foes; necessity compelled us to do as we did.

We mounted our horses and returned. Soon we were informed that a number of Indians were in the work-house at Lancaster. —— was sent to Lancaster to get all the news he could. He reported that one of the Indians concerned in recent murders was there in safety; also, that they talked of rebuilding Conestoga, and placing these Indians in the new buildings.

A few of us met to deliberate. Stewart proposed to go to Lancaster, storm their *castle*, and carry off the assassin; it was agreed to; the whole plan was arranged. Our clergyman did

not approve of our proceeding further. He thought everything was accomplished by the destruction of Conestoga, and advised us to try what we could do with the Governor and Council. I, with the rest, was opposed to the *measure* proposed by our good pastor. It was painful for us to act in opposition to his will, but the Indian in Lancaster was known to have murdered the parent of ———, one of our party.

The plan was made. Three were chosen to break in the doors, five to keep the keepers, &c., from meddling; Captain Stewart to remain outside, with about twelve men, to protect those within, to prevent surprise, and keep charge of the horses. The three were to secure the Indian, tie him with strong cords, and deliver him to Stewart. If the three were resisted, a shot was to be fired as a signal. I was one of them who entered; you know the rest; we fired; the Indians were left without life, and we rode hastily from Lancaster. Two of the Indians killed at Lancaster were recognized as murderers.

This gave quiet to the frontiers, for no murder of our defenceless inhabitants has since happened."

Mr. Smith, the above narrator, after the Revolution, went to Milton, Northumberland county; his son, Wilson Smith, removed to Erie, and represented that district in the Senate of Pennsylvania in 1812-13.

Stewart, soon after the massacre, joined the Connecticut men, and became very conspicuous in the civil wars of Wyoming. He was once taken prisoner there, and delivered to the Sheriff of York county; but his rangers rescued him, and he suddenly appeared with them again at Wyoming. He was slain there during the Revolution, in the disastrous battle of the 3d July, 1778.

A proclamation was issued by the Governor, expressing the strongest indignation at the outrages at Conestoga and Lancaster, and offering a reward for the arrest of the perpetrators; but such was the state of public opinion in the interior counties

that no one dared to bring the offenders to justice, although they mingled openly among their fellow-citizens.

#### PAXTON DURING THE REVOLUTION.

Tradition and the records bear ample testimony that the first settlers of Paxton were not wanting in patriotism. At the first sound of alarm, these heroic farmers flocked eagerly around the standard of their country, and their blood was shed on many battle-fields of the Revolution.

#### JOHN HARRIS FURNISHES SUPPLIES.

"When Independence was first agitated, John Harris thought the declaration premature. He feared the Colonies were unequal to the task of combatting with Great Britain; but when Independence was declared, he at once espoused the popular cause. Upon this occasion it is stated that he took his mother aside, and in the presence of one of his sons, read to her the Declaration of Independence from a Philadelphia paper. When he concluded it, he observed that 'the act was now done,' and that 'we must take sides either for or against the country. The war in which we are about to engage cannot be carried on without money. Now we have £3,000 in the house, and if you are agreed, I will take the money to Philadelphia, and put it into the public treasury, to carry on the war. If we succeed in obtaining our independence we may lose the money, as the Government may not be able to pay it back, but we will get our land.' His mother agreed to this proposition, and he carried the money to Philadelphia, where he deposited it in the Treasury, and took certificates. After the war, he sold these for 17s. 6d. in the pound. After the debt was funded, certificates rose to twenty-five shillings for the pound."—*G. W. Harris, Narr.*

Three of Mr. Harris' sons, David, William, and John, were officers in the Revolutionary Army—the former a Colonel, and the two latter Captains.

CITIZENS OF PAXTON AND DERRY OFFER THEIR SERVICES.

Rev. John Elder wrote as follows to the "Committee of Safety," at Philadelphia:

"PAXTON, 21st February, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: If offers for the several companies allowed to complete the Battallion to be raised now in this Province are not yet appointed, I would beg leave to recommend Mr. Wm. Bell for a Captaincy, or a First Lieutenancy; he is a young gentleman of good character, and well esteemed in this part of the country, and from his influence and agreeable disposition can, I think, in a short time engage a number of stout young men, farmers' sons, well affected to the American cause, and who may be expected to serve from principle and a due regard to liberty, but who will not enlist under officers they are unacquainted with.

I am, gentlemen, your humble serv't,

JOHN ELDER."

Hon. Valentine Hummel, Sr., of Harrisburg, has in his possession, carefully preserved in a frame and glass, a manuscript containing the original agreement of certain settlers residing in Derry township, to serve in the battalion commanded by James Burd. The first name attached to it is that of Judge Hummel's father, then a very young man. The document reads as follows:

"*July 25th, 1776.*—This is to certify that we, the Associates of Derry Township, in Lancaster County, Province of Pennsylvania, in the fourth Battalion, commanded by James Burd, Colonel, do bind ourselves in all the rules and regulations made

by the Honorable Congress in convention, for the militia of this Province."

The following is of the same date, and written immediately under, in German, and then the names are attached :

*"Derry Township, July 25, 1776.—We, the undersigned' are willing to serve in the fourth Battalion, commanded by Col. James Burd, agreeably to order of Congress, and agree to serve until the first day of November, 1776, in the land service of the country, in favor of the flag of Liberty.*

Frederick Hummel, Alexander Montgomery, David Hummel, Philip Blessing, Philip Fishburn, Henry Miller, Nicholas Zimmerman, Samuel Ramsey, Peter Grove, Mathias Hoover, John M'Farlane, George Lower, Thos. Roulin."

#### HARRIS LOOKS AFTER THE RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

On the 20th of March, 1776, John Harris wrote to the Committee of Safety, informing that body that "a large quantity of pitch and tar may be made up the Susquehanna, Juniata, &c., which, if wanted for the public use, may be brought down the river in boats to Middletown, and from thence to Philadelphia." He also states that "there are some good four-pounder cannons at Sunbury, cannon balls, swivels, &c."

#### JOHN HARRIS TO PRESIDENT WHARTON ON THE STATE OF AFFAIRS.

*"PAXTON, January 29, 1778.*

SIR : The bearer, Col. Wm. M'Eleary, is an honest man, and a true friend to the glorious cause of liberty, going down for aid to defend our frontiers against the encroachments of the savages. I am of opinion that the Indians will take an active part next spring (for or against us,) as their young men don't understand



acting as neutrals in time of war; and unless they, the western Indians, delivers up hostages to the United States immediately, or sends a number of their warriors to our camp to join us, we may depend upon an Indian war taking place against us, and ought to prepare for it as well as our present circumstances will admit. A defensive war against savages will never do the needful.

However prudent and necessary it may be to grant assistance to several parts of the frontiers, &c., at particular times, and when we are assured that a general Indian war will take place, we must attack them in their own country at all hazards. If a French war takes place, I hope we may be eased of an Indian war, which will be a great mercy. I make free to give your honor my sentiments of the times, and conclude

Your Honor's humble servant,

JOHN HARRIS.

Hon. THOS. WHARTON."

#### JOHN HARRIS OFFERS HIS SERVICES TO TRANSPORT SUPPLIES.

The situation of the people of Northumberland county, in the spring of 1778, was imminently critical. A large party of Indians, Tories and English had entered the county and commenced a war of extermination upon the settlers, who, being without the means of defence, fell an easy prey to the enemy. It was to furnish supplies to these settlers that prompted Mr. Harris to write the following letter to the Vice President of the Executive Council:

"PAXTON, June 3d, 1778.

SIR: I have received several letters from Col. Hunter lately, mentioning the distressed situation of Northumberland county, &c. It appears absolutely necessary that some person should receive, store, provide, and forward any stores the public may order up the Susquehanna, Juniata, &c., during the present In-

dian war. A quantity of flour is wanted; not a cask or bag to put it in. The inhabitants are leaving said county in great numbers. I pity my bleeding country, and am willing to assist the supplying the county of Northumberland by any means in my power, or forward any article up the different branches of this river from time to time. I am as good a judge of the navigation, in either boat or canoe, on our river as can be found. I expect to send up a quantity of stores to the *lead mines*, up Juniata, at Water Street, as soon as I receive a letter from Mr. Roberdeau, which I hourly expect. The present flood, to convey by water, should not be lost, as perhaps no other may happen till next fall. The Quartermaster can furnish provisions for boatmen or any necessary escorts, &c. If the inhabitants in their fright are suffered to move off as they are doing, and assistance not soon sent up, the crops will be lost in many frontier places, that may be saved by their getting timely aid from the public. A quantity of arms, some powder and lead, is here for Northumberland county, which I expect will be forwarded tomorrow. There's two good store-houses at my dwelling plantation, exclusive of a cellar fifty feet by forty, under my dwelling-house, so that there's plenty of store room for the public use if wanted. There's a great concourse of public wagons, &c., with stores, on the Reading road, too few flats at the Ferry here, and what there is will not be properly attended, that the public may suffer for want of a few men employed by the public (to assist in my opinion.) I have rented my Tavern, Ferry, &c., and am at leisure to assist the transporting stores, &c., up the Susquehanna as offered, if proper instructions are sent me. You'll please write to me by bearer, Mr. Whitsell, if you judge necessary.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem,

Your most obed't and most humble serv't,

JOHN HARRIS.

HON. GEORGE BRYAN.

P. S. Excuse haste and blunders.

J. H."

## WYOMING REFUGEES SEEK PROTECTION AT HARRIS' FERRY.

In July, 1778, a large number of the survivors of the Wyoming massacre arrived at Harris' Ferry in boats and flats to seek protection from the enemy. The following letter from Col. Matthew Smith alludes to this circumstance as follows:

"PAXTANG, July 12, 10 o'clock, 1778.

"SIR: I am this moment arrived at Harris' Ferry, and just now behold the greatest scene of distress I ever saw; the numerous poor ran away from their habitations, and left their all, and several families lost, part killed and scalped on their retreat; the most cruel butcheries ever known are practiced; wounded and others thrown into fires while yet living. The inhabitants, however, are much distressed; the Wyoming people are undoubtedly, by last accounts, entirely defeated. Northumberland county is evacuated. Not more than one hundred men with Col. Hunter at Sunbury; the Blue Mountain [five miles above Harrisburg] is now the frontier; and I am afraid Lancaster county will shortly follow the example of the other county. The stores at Carlisle are something very considerable. I doubt not their object is to destroy that place. I am informed there is not that care taken that should be. I think it would be necessary to appoint some careful officer at that place, that would do the duty more punctually.

This party is large, having Col. Butler at their head, one hundred regular troops at first; about the same number of *Tories*, but is increased in two or three times that number; seven hundred Indians, all around in a most formidable manner, every one of them, exclusive of guns and tomahawks, as usual, each one has a large *spontoon*, and as soon as engaged, rushes on in a most dreadful manner. It is said they have field pieces, or swivels, and a number of *light horse*.

It is the earnest request of all friends of their country, as well

as your humble servant, that something shall be done in the greatest haste. Be pleased to send an order for what arms are ready at Lancaster and Hummelstown, also for ammunition, and I shall exert every nerve in forwarding matters to the spot the men shall collect.

I am yours, &c.,

MATHEW SMITH."

Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks, still living in York county, a grandmother of the publisher of the "Annals," was one of the Wyoming settlers who sought protection at Harris' Ferry upon this occasion.

#### HARRIS' FERRY A SUPPLY DEPOT FOR THE ARMY.

It would seem that Harris' Ferry was a depot for army supplies during the Revolution. Col. Hartley wrote to President Reed, May 11, 1779, that "the Commissary in this county (York) had exerted himself very much in procuring provisions for the troops on the Susquehanna. The expedition on these waters must greatly depend upon the supplies from hence; but unfortunately no wagons can be provided in the ordinary course to transport the flour to Harris' Ferry, where the boats are to receive the same."

Middletown, in this county, is also noticed in the Colonial Records as being a supply depot for the army.

#### COL. SMITH PROPOSES RELIEF TO THE SETTLERS IN NORTH-UMBERLAND COUNTY.

The earnest appeal of the struggling settlers of Northumberland county for succor, was quickly responded to by the Paxtonians, as will be seen by the following letter from Col Smith :

"PAXTANG, July 31, 1779.

"SIR: I take the opportunity of conveying a few lines by the bearer, John Gilchrist, Esq., (a member of the House of

Assembly,) who, I think, was pitched upon, thinking he might have more influence with Council than another that might as quickly deliver the dispatches. For my part, I think the distresses of the Northumberland county people equal, if not superior, to anything that have happened to any part of the continent since the commencement of the present war. You will see the late accounts, in some measure, by the letters enclosed by Mr. M'Clay [Maclay?]; I believe only in some measure, as the accounts is almost every minute arriving by people who have escaped the enemy, that, if true, are indeed truly alarming. The accounts this moment is, the town of Northumberland is evacuated; if so, then Sunbury will soon follow the example, and the same frontier will be where it was twenty years past. This day the township of Paxtang met to appoint a committee to act in conjunction with other parts of the State, to fix and lower the prices. As soon as the letters came to hand, Messrs. Elder, M'Clay and myself attended, had the whole matter laid before the people, that was no inconsiderable number, and proposed a scheme for volunteers to turn out immediately for the relief of the distressed people. We have fixed Sunday morning, at 8 o'clock, to march, when I doubt not at least fifty men will go that way, as the distress was so great. Everything has been done to encourage, *but no promise of reward absolutely given*. I know the difficulty of getting the militia out; this method in the meantime, in hopes to stop the progress of the enemy, if the volunteers can be allowed wages, or even their expenses, it will be acceptable if it cannot be done. A few lines from your Excellency, or from your Excellency and Council, will be truly acceptable to me, and I will make the best use of it in my power, as I assure you I have made every proposal in my power, and perhaps more; but as the greater number now going from this batallion is officers, I hope to make the matter more easy than if they were generally privates. If you write by the bearer

direct to Northumberland county, as I will be there two or three weeks from this date, if the country is not entirely broken up.

Your humble servant,

MATT. SMITH.

His Excellency JOSEPH REED."

#### THE PAXTONIANS AFTER THE ENEMY.

Col. Smith again wrote to President Reed, on the 3d of August, 1779, informing him that he "had arrived at Sunbury with sixty Paxtang boys," and that "the neighboring townships turns out a number of volunteers. Cumberland county will give a considerable assistance; to-morrow at 12 o'clock is fixed for the time of march;" that "provisions is scarce," but that "they will follow the savages and hope to come at them, and if they do will give a good account."

#### THE ICE AND PUMPKIN FLOODS.

"The ice flood happened in the winter of 1784-85, and the pumpkin flood in the fall of 1787. During the ice flood, the low ground about Harris' graveyard was covered with water, and the ferry flats were tied to the bars of the cellar windows of the stone house (now Pennsylvania Female College.) On that occasion the water rose into the first story of Judge Carson's house, above Harrisburg, and a considerable part of the river ran around that house and down Paxton creek. The fences on its route were generally <sup>run</sup> carried away. During the pumpkin flood, the ground about the graveyard was also covered with water, and the pumpkins, carried off chiefly from the Yankees in Wyoming valley, were strewed in profusion over the low ground below Harrisburg."—*Preface to Napey's Harrisburg Directory.*

It is evident, by the extracts appended below, that the dates given in the above statement are inaccurate. The ice flood above alluded to is thus described by the celebrated Dr. Benja-

min Rush, in a letter to the editor of the *Columbian Magazine* for November, 1786 :

“The winter of 1783-84 was uncommonly cold, insomuch that the mercury in Farenheit’s thermometer stood several times at 5° below 0. The snows were frequent, and in many places from two to three feet deep during the greatest part of the winter. All the rivers in Pennsylvania were frozen so as to bear wagons and sleds with immense weights. In the month of January a thaw came on suddenly, which opened our rivers so as to set the ice a-driving, to use the phrase of the country. In the course of one night during the thaw, the wind shifted suddenly to the north-west, and the weather became intensely cold. The ice, which had floated the day before, was suddenly obstructed ; and in the river Susquehanna the obstructions were formed in those places where the water was most shallow, or where it had been accustomed to fall. This river is several hundred miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile and a half in breadth, and winds through a hilly, and in many places a fertile and highly cultivated country. It has as yet a most difficult communication with our bays and the sea, occasioned by the number and height of the falls which occur near the mouth of the river. The ice in many places, especially where there were falls, formed a kind of dam of a most stupendous height. About the middle of March our weather moderated, and a thaw became general. The effects of it were remarkable in all our rivers, but in none so much as in the river I have mentioned. I shall therefore endeavor, in a few words, to describe them. Unfortunately the dams of ice did not give way all at once, nor those which lay nearest to the mouth of the river first. While the upper dams were set afloat by the warm weather, the lower ones, which were the largest, and in which, of course, the ice was most impacted, remained fixed. In consequence of this the river rose in a few hours, in many places, above thirty feet, rolling upon its surface large lumps of ice from ten to forty cubic feet in size.

The effects of this sudden inundation were terrible. Whole farms were laid under water. Barns, stables, horses, cattle, fences, mills of every kind, and in one instance a large stone house, forty by thirty feet, were carried down the stream. Large trees were torn up by the roots, several small islands covered with woods were swept away, and not a vestige of them was left behind. On the barns which preserved their shape, in some instances, for many miles were to be seen living fowls; and in one dwelling a candle was seen to burn for some time after it was swept from its foundation. Where the shore was level, the lumps of ice and the ruins of houses and farms were thrown a quarter of a mile from the ordinary height of the river. In some instances farms were ruined by the mould being swept from them by the cakes of ice, or by depositions of sand; while others were enriched by large depositions of mud. The damage, upon the whole, done to the State of Pennsylvania by this fresh, was very great. In most places it happened in the daytime, or the consequences must have been fatal to many thousands."

A writer in Hazzard's Register for 1832, who claimed to be in possession of a record of all the great floods that occurred in the Susquehanna since 1744, says :

"The first regular flood on record is that of 1744; the second occurred in 1758; the third in 1772; the fourth in March, 1784; the fifth, known as the '*great pumpkin fresh*,' happened in *September*, 1786; the sixth in the spring of 1800; the seventh in August, 1814; and the eighth in August, 1817."

#### ERECTION OF DAUPHIN COUNTY, AND HARRIS' FERRY MADE THE SEAT OF JUSTICE.

Dauphin county, named in honor of a son of Louis XVI., was created out of a part of Lancaster county, and Harris' Ferry made the seat of justice thereof, by an act of Assembly dated March 4, 1785. The act is entitled "An act for erecting part of the county of Lancaster into a separate county." The first,



second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sections provides for the name and boundaries of the county.

The seventh section directs the Court to sit for the said county of Dauphin near Harris' Ferry, in the months of February, May, August and November, yearly, for the dispatch of the public business of said county.

The eighth section provides that it shall and may be lawful to and for Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden, and William Brown, of Paxton, or any three of them, to take assevrance to them and their heirs of such lot or piece of ground as shall be laid out and approved of by the said commissioners, or any three of them, for the erecting a court-house and gaol thereupon, in trust and for the use of the inhabitants of the said county of Dauphin, and thereupon to erect a court-house and prison sufficient to accommodate the public service of the said county.

The ninth section gives the commissioners power to assess and levy taxes for building the same.

The tenth section provides that the sum of money so raised shall not exceed £1500.

#### HARRIS PROPOSES TO LAY OUT A TOWN AT HIS FERRY.

Previous to the passage of the above act, Mr. Harris had made the following proposals to the General Assembly, which, perhaps, influenced that body to select Harris' Ferry as the seat of justice for the new county :

“PHILADELPHIA, March 3, 1784.

*Proposals of John Harris for the laying out of a Town on his Land, on the River Susquehannah.*

That the said John Harris will immediately (if encouraged by Government) lay out a Town of Two hundred lots, on the high grounds above his present dwelling house, the lots of about

the Quantity of a Quarter of an acre each, in such form, with respect to streets, lanes and alleys, as the Commissioners may approve, a large street to be left for Publick landings along the River side. That the said John Harris agrees that the Honorable Assembly of this Commonwealth shall appoint Commissioners to value his said lots, after reserving Twenty Lots for his own use: That the s'd John Harris will convey all the streets, lanes and alleys, to the inhabitants of s'd Town, & will convey to proper Commissioners a lot for a Court House & Jail, and a square of Four Acres to the State of Pensilvania, for such purposes as the Government may apply the same: the applyers to have it at their choice to take the lots on a reasonable Ground-rent, or to purchase the fee simple of the same: The Commissioners in both cases to be Judges: That as soon as the s'd Two Hundred lots are built on or disposed of, should there be a further demand for lots, the s'd John Harris engages, that the Publick shall be accommodated at a reasonable rate.

JOHN HARRIS."

THE TOWN LAID OUT—DEED OF CONVEYANCE TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

The town proposed by Harris was laid out in the spring of 1785, by William Maclay, who was a son-in-law of Mr. Harris. Mr. M. also made the draft of the town, and drew up the following conveyances from John Harris to the commissioners:

"JULY 6th, 1785.

\* \* \* "By virtue of which said several grants, devices and conveyances the title to the land on which the town of Harrisburg in the county of Dauphin is situated is legally vested in the said John Harris his heirs and assigns; And whereas in and by a certain bond or obligation duly executed by the said John Harris to the State of Pennsylvania for the sum of five thousand pounds lawful monies of the same State bearing date

the 4th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five conditioned for the faithful performance of all and singular the agreements promises engagements, articles matters and things which he had therein undertaken to do and perform, among other things did covenant to, and with Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown as follows: Whereas the Representatives of the freemen of the said Commonwealth in General Assembly met, in and by a certain bill before them now depending have resolved to erect part of the county of Lancaster into a separate county to be known and called by the name of the county of Dauphin, and that the seat of Justice in the said county of Dauphin shall be fixed at or near the place of the said John Harris' residence, and that Joshua Elder, Jacob Awl, Andrew Stewart, Wm. Brown and Jas. Cowden or any three of them shall be commissioners for certain purposes, in the said bill mentioned; And Whereas the said John Harris in order to promote the good intentions of the said General Assembly in fixing the seat of Justice at the said place, to enable the said commissioners to regulate the laying out a county town there to public advantage, and to promote the more speedy settlement thereof by a liberal encouragement to purchasers hath promised, covenanted, and agreed to and with the said commissioners, that as soon as the said bill shall be passed into a law he, the said John Harris will without delay lay out two hundred lots containing about one quarter acre each on the high grounds near his present dwelling house on the bank of the river Susquehanna as a site for the said county town, and that with the same lots shall be laid out such streets, lanes and alleys as the said commissioners or a majority of them shall direct, which streets shall be confirmed for public use forever; and that he will also lay out a large street along the river for public landing places; And Whereas the said John Harris in consideration of the

promises and other good causes hath also promised covenanted and agreed to and with the said intended commissioners that in case the said bill shall be passed into a law he will upon request convey to the said commissioners, or any three of them and their heirs a good and sufficient lot of ground for erecting a Court House and goal thereon in trust for the use of the inhabitants of the said county of Dauphin." [Here follows a quotation from the act erecting the new county.] "Now this indenture witnesseth that in consideration of the premises and for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings lawful money of Pennsylvania to them the said John Harris and Mary his wife in hand paid by the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and William Brown at and before the ensembling and delivery of these presents the receipt of which sum of five shillings they the said John Harris and Mary his wife do hereby acknowledge, and thereof, and every thereof do acquit release the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and Wm. Brown their and each of their heirs executors administrators and assigns, and every of them have granted bargained sold released enfeoffed and confirmed and by these presents do grant bargain, sell alien, release enfeoff and confirm unto the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and Wm. Brown their heirs and assigns all the streets, lanes alleys or highways as laid out by the commissioners of, in, and for the town of Harrisburg aforesaid in the county of Dauphin the butts, boundaries, courses, distances length and breadth thereof are as follows:—" [Front, Paxton, Second, Market, Third, Pine, Locust, Walnut, Chestnut, and Mulberry streets, River, Raspberry, Barbara, Cranberry, Strawberry, Blackberry and Cherry alleys are here described]; "And in consideration of the further sum of five shillings lawful money aforesaid to them the said John Harris and Mary his wife in hand well and truly paid by the said Jacob Awl, And.

Stewart, Joshua Elder, James Cowden and Wm. Brown the receipt thereof is hereby acknowledged and thereof and every part thereof the said Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and Wm. Brown, their and each of their heirs are fully acquitted and forever discharged, have granted, bargained, sold released aliened enfeoffed and confirmed, and by these presents do grant bargain, sell alien release, enfeoff and confirm unto them the said Jacob Awl Joshua Elder Andrew Stewart Jas. Cowden and Wm. Brown, their heirs and assigns *four* certain lots of ground in the aforesaid town of Harrisburg, marked on the general plan of said town Nos. 120, 121, 142, 143, situated and bounded as follows: Beginning at a corner where Raspberry alley intersects Market street, thence along the line of Market street to the line that divides lots No. 141 and 142; thence on the same division line crossing Strawberry alley to Walnut street; thence on the line of Walnut street to Raspberry alley; thence down the line of said alley to the place of beginning."

#### CONVEYANCE OF THE FERRY LOT.

On the 6th of July, 1785, "in consideration of the sum of five shillings," John and Mary Harris also conveyed to Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden and Wm. Brown, in trust for the use of the public, "a certain lot of ground in the town of Harrisburg, called and known as the 'Ferry Lot,' beginning at a post marked for a corner on the line of Front street, thence north 37 degrees east 10 perches, to a corner; thence 53 degrees west 4 perches to a corner; thence south 37 degrees west 10 perches to the place of beginning, containing one quarter of an acre, together with all and singular the rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging."

THE FUTURE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PREDICTED.

Impressed with a strong faith that this point on the Susquehanna would be looked to, if not as a great commercial point, at least one possessing advantages from its central position, and at that early day presenting itself as the great crossing for the growing trade of the western and northern settlements, Mr. Harris is said to have observed to a gentleman, Mr. Hollenback, who afterwards settled at Wilkesbarre, that *this place would become the seat of government of Pennsylvania*; and so strongly persuaded was he of the realization of his prophecy, that by deed dated July 6, 1785, he gave in trust to the commissioners, for the use of the Commonwealth, in case the seat of government should be fixed at Harrisburg, four acres and twenty-one perches of land, being the present site of the State Arsenal.

The following is an extract from the deed conveying the same. It is recorded in book A, Recorder's Office :

"In consideration of the sum of five shillings, grant, bargain, sell, release and enfeoff, and confirm unto Jacob Awl, Joshua Elder, Andrew Stewart, James Cowden, and William Brown, their heirs and assigns, in trust *for public use, and such purposes as the Legislature shall hereafter direct*, a certain lot or piece of ground, situated in the said town of Harrisburg, in the said county of Dauphin, marked on the general plan of the said town "Public Ground," situated and bounded as follows : Beginning at a post marked for a corner on the lines of Third and Walnut streets; thence along the said Walnut street, north thirty-seven degrees east seventeen perches and a quarter to a post marked for a corner; thence north thirty-five degrees west thirty-one perches to a black oak; thence south fifty-seven degrees west twenty-three perches to a post marked for a corner on the line of Third street; thence down the said street, south

forty-five degrees east thirty-seven perches to the place of beginning."

The late Thomas P. Cope, of Philadelphia, informed George W. Harris, Esq., in 1846, that he was at the house of John Harris, on the present site of Harrisburg, he thinks, about the year 1785. He ate breakfast with Mr. Harris, who expressed to him the opinion that the place (Harrisburg) would become the seat of government of Pennsylvania, and he pointed out the public hill as the spot where the public buildings would be erected.

#### ATTEMPT TO FIX THE FEDERAL SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AT OR NEAR HARRISBURG.

The question of fixing, permanently, the seat of the Federal Government, began to occupy public attention shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War; and was strongly agitated in the Congress of 1789, then in session at New York.

The question was first submitted to the House of Representatives of that body in the shape of the following resolution, which, with the subsequent information, the compiler gleans from the "Pennsylvania Packet," published at Philadelphia, in the year above stated:

*"Resolved,* That a permanent seat for the government of the United States ought to be fixed as near the centre of wealth, population and extent of territory as shall be consistent with the convenience of the Atlantic navigation, having also a due regard to the circumstances of the western country."

Adopted.

Mr. Goodhue observed that the members from the Eastern and Northern States had contemplated the subject of a permanent seat of the Federal Government with deliberation. They had turned their eyes to different parts of the country, and had at last, after a mutual and full consultation, come to an agree-

ment that the banks of the Susquehanna was as far South and as near the centre of the population and extent of territory as was consistent with other circumstances important to the country. They felt disposed to be governed by principles of accommodation, and were of opinion that the banks of the Susquehanna ought to be chosen for the permanent residence of Congress. He concluded by reading a resolution to this effect.

Mr. Hartley supported the resolution, and pointed out Wright's Ferry as an eligible place.

Mr. Lee moved to amend, by fixing the seat of government on the Potomac instead of the Susquehanna. Not agreed to—yeas 20, nays 31.

Mr. Madison proposed to amend, by leaving it discretionary to be either on the Potomac or the Susquehanna. Not agreed to—yeas 20, nays 31.

On a subsequent day, the House of Representatives, in committee of the whole, proceeded to consider the resolution of Mr. Goodhue, which read as follows :

*“Resolved, In the opinion of this committee, that the permanent seat of government of the United States ought to be at some convenient place on the east bank of the Susquehanna river, in the State of Pennsylvania,” &c.*

Mr. Heister moved to insert after the words “Susquehanna river,” the words *“between Harrisburg and Middletown, inclusive.”*

A lengthy and spirited debate occurred, participated in by nearly all the principal members of the House; those from the Northern and Eastern States generally favoring the amendment, and those from the South opposing it. The amendment was finally lost.

Several other amendments were proposed and lost; and the original resolution was carried.

In Committee of the Whole House next day, it was resolved



that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to borrow the sum of \$100,000, to be repaid in twenty years, with five per cent. interest, for the purpose of erecting the necessary buildings on the bank of the Susquehanna.

Mr. Fitzsimmons moved for the "appointment of commissioners to examine and report upon the most eligible situation for the public buildings on the Susquehanna; and that they be authorized, by and with the advice of the President, to purchase such quantity of lands as may be thought necessary," &c.

Mr. Hartley said the State of Pennsylvania, both by its convention and Legislature, had made the cession of the jurisdiction by Congress over any district of ten miles square in the State that might be selected for the seat of government.

The resolution of Mr. Fitzsimmons, after being so amended as to make the acts of the commissioners subject to the approval or rejection by the President, was adopted—yeas 28, nays 21.

The resolution went to the Senate, which body struck out all relating to the Susquehanna, and inserted a clause fixing the permanent seat of government at Germantown, Pa.

The House at first agreed to the clause, but refused to concur with some subsequent action of the Senate thereon; and pending the further consideration of the subject, Congress adjourned *sine die* for that year.

At the session of 1790, the question was again brought before Congress, and created an intense excitement throughout the country. The Northern and Eastern members were strenuous in their efforts to prevent the seat of government being located south of the Susquehanna river; while, on the other hand, the Southern and Western members were just as active in their labors to prevent it being located on the Susquehanna, or at any point north or east of that river. The vote on the question was divided equally.

Finally, this sectional feeling became so strong as to endanger the safety of the Union itself, and Washington, Jefferson, Ham-

ilton, and other patriots, earnestly sought to effect a compromise, but were unsuccessful.

At last, by changing the votes of one or two of the Northern members, brought about through the instrumentality of Mr. Jefferson, a bill, pretty much in the shape of that proposed at the previous session, passed Congress, fixing the site of the seat of government on the banks of the Potomac, at such place as should be selected by commissioners under the direction of the President.

#### APPEARANCE OF THE TOWN WHEN FIRST LAID OUT—INCIDENTS.

The following incidents originally appeared in Napey's Directory, and were written by George W. Harris, Esq. :

"When the town was first laid out, the old orchard [belonging to the mansion house, now the Pennsylvania Female College] extended up to about the line of Mulberry street. About the intersection of Mulberry street with Second street, was a ridge from which the ground descended from six to ten feet to the present Market Square, [the ground in and about which was of a swampy character,] and the water ran from the Square upwards and into the river, along the channel which is under the bridge now erected across Front street, above Walnut. At this time the ground above Market street was chiefly in woods.

"Mr. Robert Harris, who died in the year 1851, frequently saw several bears killed in the river in one day. In the fall of the year they would come down from the mountains to the corn-fields, and were quite abundant in the neighborhood. It was quite common to see them while riding along the roads. The farmers, when going out to plough, would frequently take their guns to guard against their depredations. On one occasion, Mr. Robert Harris, with his sister, Mrs. Hanna, were playing at the river near the mouth of the run at the end of Walnut street.

A thicket of bushes extended up along the run. Some boys came running from a barn on the bank, and told them that two bears were coming down the run. They scampered up the bank, when presently the bears came along and took into the river.

"On another occasion a man named Rennox, with some others, went in pursuit of a bear. When the canoe approached near to it, Rennox made a stroke at the bear with his socket pole, but missed it. He either lost his balance or was drawn overboard by the weight of the pole, and the bear struck him with his paw and tore his cheek open.

"Wild turkies were also abundant here at this period. John Harris shot wild turkies from the door of his store house. Beaver and otter were then and afterwards killed along Paxton creek, and on the islands in the neighborhood.

"The town, as laid out by John Harris, extended as far down the bank as Mulberry street, and the lot now occupied by the 'Swan House,' corner of Front and Mulberry streets, owned by the heirs of Valentine Egle, was No. 1 on the plan of the town. In the course of a few years afterwards he extended the plan down to Mary's alley, which bounds the stone-house lot on the upper side. His executors, in 1792, extended the plan of lots further down.

"There is no house, except the building now occupied by the Female College, on Front street, yet standing within the limits of Harrisburg, which is certainly known to have been erected before the town was laid out.

"John Hamilton erected the first permanent embellishment to the town, after Harris' stone house, by building a brick house at the upper corner of Front street and Blackberry alley, and the large establishment for his store on the corner of Market square and Market street, which was known a few years ago as the 'Washington House,' but since replaced by a new structure, termed the 'Jones House.' Mr. Hamilton carried

on an extensive trade with the Western settlers. In place of the present rapid mode of conveying merchandise and passengers to Pittsburg, he kept large numbers of horses and mules, and every few weeks his caravans set out 'for the West,' laden with salt, powder, lead, &c.

"The first clergyman established in the town was Rev. Mr. Montgomery, a Presbyterian. His first discourse, it is said, was delivered in the lot where recently stood the ruins of the Presbyterian Church, on a pleasant afternoon in the month of June. The congregation—the entire village—were sheltered by two or three large apple trees and some noble oaks, the primitive growth of the forest.

"Chief Justice M'Kean resided here for some time, at least when Congress sat at York. He lived in a substantial one story log house, a short distance above what is now Locust street. He wore an immense cocked hat, and had great deference shown him by the country people and the straggling Indians, who had their village a short distance from the town. When he and the other Judges of the Supreme Court came to the town to hold court, numbers of the citizens would go out on horseback to meet them and escort them to town. Sometimes one or two hundred people would attend on this occasion. And each morning while the Chief Justice was in town holding court, the sheriff and constables escorted him from his lodgings to the court room. When on the Bench, he sat with his cocked hat on, and was dressed in a scarlet gown."

#### FIRST COURT AT HARRIS' FERRY.

The first courts in Dauphin county were held by Justices of the Peace, and the earliest record of a court reads :

"At a Court of Quarter Sessions holden near Harris' Ferry, in and for the county of Dauphin, &c.," on the "third Tuesday

of May, in the year of our Lord 1785," before "Timothy Green, Samuel Jones and Jonathan M'Clure, Esqrs., Justices of the same court."

The sheriff of Lancaster county exercised the same office in Dauphin county.

The names of the Jurymen were : James Cowden (foreman), Robert Montgomery, John Gilchrist, Barefoot Brunson, John Clark, Rowen M'Clure, John Carson, John Wilson, William Crane, Archibald M'Allister, Richard Dixon, John Pattimore, James Crouch, Jacob Awl, William Brown, Andrew Stewart, James Rogers, Samuel Stewart, John Cooper, Alexander Berryhill.

Alexander Graydon was the first Prothonotary; Anthony Kelker the first Sheriff, and Rudolph Kelker the first Deputy Sheriff.

The earliest record of a punishment is the account of one inflicted on William Courtenay and Jesse Rowland, who were sentenced to receive eighteen lashes and pay fifteen shillings sterling, on the 18th of August, 1785, between the hours of four and six o'clock in the afternoon. Several records occur in which punishment was inflicted by lashes and "standing in the pillory." An unusually large number of the cases tried during the first term were for horse stealing.

#### CHANGES IN THE NAME OF THE TOWN.

The minutes of the second court held in the town are dated at "Harrisburg;" and on the 3d of August, 1786, the following endorsement appears on the docket :

"The name of the County Town, or Seat of the Courts, is altered from 'Harrisburg' to 'Louisbourg,' in consequence of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth so styling it in the commissions of the Justices of the said Town."

On the 16th day of May, 1791, the Docket contains the following note :

“The name of the County Town is altered to Harrisburg, in pursuance of an act of Assembly creating it into a borough under that name, passed 13th of April, 1791.”

George W. Harris, Esq., relates that his father (the late Robert Harris, Esq.) informed him that when the act of Assembly was passed, in 1785, establishing Dauphin county, it fixed the seat of government *near* Harris' Ferry. The design was to leave to John Harris the privilege of naming the town.

But the Chief Justice (M'Kean) and some of the Judges of the Supreme Court conceived the notion that as the county was called after the Dauphin of France, the town should be called Louisbourg, after Louis XVI. At this time the prejudices of the people ran high in favor of France for the aid that kingdom had given America during the Revolution. Besides, Judge M'Kean and John Harris had had a personal difficulty, which occurred about the time the former was leaving Harrisburg, after his residence here; and, perhaps, being influenced by motives of hostility towards Mr. Harris, Mr. M'Kean strongly urged that the town should be called Louisbourg.

Accordingly, in the first precept for holding the courts here, the court was directed to be held at Louisbourg. John Harris, however, told the Judges that they might “Louisbourg” as much as they pleased, but that he would never execute a title for any lot in any other name than that of Harrisburg; and his determination prevailed.

#### THE FIRST COURT HOUSES.

The building in which the first court at Harris' Ferry was held, was a log house which stood until about fifteen years ago, at the corner of what is now Washington avenue and Front

street; and the "pillory," or punishing place, was in that neighborhood. The court was afterwards held in a log house which still stands, [but now weatherboarded] on the south-east corner of Market street and Dewberry alley. From this place the court moved into the present Court House, which it occupied until December, 1812, when it vacated that building for the use of the Legislature, which body occupied it until July 2, 1822, when it took possession of the State Capitol, as will appear hereafter.

When the court vacated the Court House it moved into the then partially finished brick building, owned at the time by Mr. Capp, now known as the "White Hall" tavern. While here, the Commissioners of the county erected the brick buildings opposite the "Franklin House," corner of Walnut street and Raspberry alley, into which the court moved, and which it occupied until the Legislature vacated the present Court House, as above stated.

The following is a list of the President Judges of the Dauphin county courts since the adoption of the Constitution of 1790. It is derived from the "Executive Minutes," in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth :

John Joseph Henry, commissioned December 16, 1793.

Walter Franklin, commissioned January 18, 1811.

Amos Ellmaker, commissioned July 3, 1815.

David Scott, commissioned December 21, 1816.

Samuel D. Franks, commissioned July 29, 1818.

Calvin Blythe, commissioned February 1, 1830.

James M. Porter, commissioned July 1, 1839.

Anson V. Parsons, commissioned January 16, 1841.

Calvin Blythe, commissioned February 4, 1842.

Nathaniel B. Eldred, commissioned March 30, 1843.

John J. Pearson, commissioned April 7, 1849.

John J. Pearson, elected October 14, 1851.

## CURIOUS CASE OF SWINDLING.

About the year 1790, there flourished among the poor residents of the western part of Berks county, a noted swindler named George Savin, *alias* Greene. He was a man of talent, possessed a winning address, and was a thorough master in quick and correct discernment of character, which enabled him for a long time to prey upon the purses of his credulous neighbors with impunity. The following extract from 2d Yeats' Reports will explain the character of his swindling operations :

*"At Nisi Prius, at Harrisburg—October Assizes, 1798.*

*CORUM, YEATS and SMITH, Justices.*

*ABRAM STOUT against RANDOLPH RASSEL.*

Special action in the case. The plaintiff declared that whereas George Savin, *alias* Green, was indebted to him in £100, the defendant, in consideration that the plaintiff promised to accept him as his debtor in the room of the said George Savin, *alias* Green, on the 2d July, 1790, promised to pay him the said £100 within six weeks from that time or sooner, nevertheless, &c. Plea non assumpsit.

The evidence on the trial turned out as follows :

Savin was an artful swindler, and gulled a number of ignorant persons to deliver him divers sums of gold and silver, under a pretence that he would double the amount by some chemical process in a short period. He first received, as if reluctantly, some small sums, and delivered to the adventurers in his bank, (so called,) a few days afterwards, genuine Spanish dollars, apparently new, doubling the sums paid him. When his fame was sufficiently known, and the avarice of the weak people in the neighborhood highly inflamed, he soon got into his custody considerable sums, and then decamped privately in the night from his haunt—a retired place twelve miles from Reading, and concealed himself in Dauphin county. To his latter hiding place



he was pursued by the plaintiff and one Francis Umbehooker, two of his dupes, who offered a reward for apprehending him. The person whom they made use of for this purpose ingeniously held out to the defendant the lure of having £200 in specie at home, ready to be put into Savin's bank, if he should come to his house and receive it for multiplication. Some strong suspicious circumstances were shown against the defendant as being in connection with Savin. The latter first came to the house, in pursuance of the scheme, about ten o'clock at night of the 2d of July, 1790. The plaintiff and Umbehooker lay concealed in the barn, and were notified of Savin's presence. On their appearance Savin was alarmed, and desired them to walk up stairs with him. On a signal given the defendant also appeared, and some altercation occurred; but afterwards, on being informed of their respective demands, he became security for Savin's appearance at his house the next morning before day. Thither they all came on the 3d of July, 1790, and defendant promised to pay the plaintiff his demand against Savin, £100, within six weeks from that time, or sooner; and as Savin owed to Umbehooker \$303 11, to pay him \$100 down, and the residue on the Tuesday following, at the same house in Dauphin county. Whereupon Savin was set at liberty.

Verdict *pro quer* for £149 17s. 6d. damages. Messrs. Clymer and Reed *pro quer*. Messrs. Ingersoll, Hopkins and Fisher *pro def*.

A motion was afterwards made for a new trial, and a rule to show cause obtained; but the argument coming on in December term, 1799, the defendant's counsel discharged the rule."

#### THE TOWN INCORPORATED INTO A BOROUGH.

The act to erect the town of Harrisburg into a borough was passed on the 13th day of April, 1791; and an act to alter the same without interfering with the boundaries originally laid

down, was approved February 1, 1808, on the ground "that experience has fully proved that, owing to a difference in the local situation of the places, and various other causes, the act of Assembly for erecting the town of Reading into a borough, however applicable to the purposes for which it was originally intended by the Legislature, is not well calculated for the good government of the borough of Harrisburg; therefore, be it enacted, that the said town of Harrisburg shall continue and forever remain a borough, under the name and title of the 'Borough of Harrisburg;' the extent and limits of which shall be the same as in the original law, to wit:

*Limits of Harrisburg, incorporated 13th April, 1791.*

Beginning at low water mark on the eastern shore of the Susquehanna river; thence by the *pineapple tree* north sixty degrees and one quarter east, seventy-nine perches, to an ash tree on the west bank of Paxton creek; thence by the several corners thereof three hundred and twenty-three perches to a white hickory on William Maclay's line; thence by the same, south sixty-seven and three quarters degrees west two hundred and twelve perches to a marked chestnut-oak, on the eastern bank of the Susquehanna; thence by the same course to low water mark to the place of beginning."

The borough limits were extended by the act of the 16th April, 1838, by the 17th section of "An Act granting certain authorities to the cities of Lancaster and Philadelphia, and for other purposes," in the following language: "The north-western boundary line of the borough of Harrisburg shall be, and the same is hereby extended and enlarged as follows: Extending it along the river line to the upper line of the land of the late William Maclay, on said river; thence to Paxton creek, and thence along said creek to the north-western corner of the present boundary;" thus annexing the town of Maclaysburg, or all that part of the present borough laying north-west of South

street; and in the 18th section, giving its inhabitants the privileges and subjecting them to the same liabilities as if they had been originally included within the corporate limits of said borough.

The minutes of the first Town Councils are not to be found; and the only record the compiler could discover relative to the affairs of the borough in the first year of its incorporation, is an account of the Overseers of the Poor, which reads as follows:

"To amount of Hogs and Butter for ye use of ye  
poor, . . . . . £16 1s. 1½d."

#### DEATH OF JOHN HARRIS, Jr.

John Harris, the founder of Harrisburg, died 29th July, 1791, and is buried in the graveyard of Paxton church. He was about sixty-five years of age.

#### COST OF THE COURT HOUSE.

The Minutes of the first Boards of County Commissioners are not to be found, and it is therefore difficult to discover any great amount of information respecting the erection of the county buildings. There is, however, in the Commissioners' office, what is entitled an "Order Book" for the year 1785, which gives the receipts and expenditures of the county for that year. By it we learn that the old Jail was erected at a considerable period before the present Court House; for among the first expenditures noted in the book are sums of money paid for the erection of a "stone wall around the goal."

The expenditures made for the construction of the Court House we find to be as follows:

				£	s.	d.
James Mitchell,	new Court House,	.	.	108	0	0
Mitchell & Kapp,	do	.	.	8	9	10
John Kean,	do	.	.		5	6
do	do	.	.	79	10	0
do	do	.	.	98	72	0
do	do	.	.	500	0	0
do	do	.	.	100	0	0
do	do	.	.	100	0	0
do	do	.	.	100	0	0
John Kean & R. Harris,	do	.	.	400	0	0
do	do	.	.	10	14	0
do	do	.	.	152	4	2
do	do	.	.	150	0	0
do	do	.	.	250	0	0
do	do	.	.	75	16	11
Robert Harris,	do	.	.	75	0	0
do	do	.	.	18	15	0
do	do	.	.	87	10	0
do	do	.	.	75	0	0
do	do	.	.	5	2	8
do	do	.	.	3	7	6½
do	do	.	.	4	12	1
do	do	.	.	17	12	8
do	do	.	.	80	7	3
Trustees,	do	.	.	85	15	0
do	do	.	.	269	12	2
do	do	.	.	2578	3	8
John Cumins,	do	.	.	5	0	0
James Ingraham,	do	.	.	1	2	6
Benjamin Kurtz,	do	.	.	3	0	0
John Balsely,	do	.	.		18	9
Connelly & Rowen,	do	.	.	172	15	4
do	do	.	.	115	6	8
Frederick Cleckner,	do	.	.		11	3
do	do	.	.		7	6
William Wray,	do	.	.	2	17	6
C. Kuncle,	do	.	.		12	6
do	do	.	.	2	14	8
Benjamin Trego,	do	.	.	14	7	2

			£	s.	d.
Bricker & Bennet,	new Court House,	. .	4	15	7½
L. Lemmers,	do	. .	5	5	10
Charles Rowen,	do	. .	9	11	1
do	do	. .	6	16	1½
Henry Bruner,	do	. .	2	17	6
Jacob Wain,	do	. .	10	11	8
H. Eckert, Jail and	do	. .	15	16	9
H. Ford,	do	. .	6	6	0
Court House Bell,	. . . . .	. .	181	18	10
Residue of Bell,	. . . . .	. .	26	18	10
Henry Brimer,	. . . . .	. .	2	5	0
New Bell,	. . . . .	. .	112	10	0

## THE MARKET HOUSES—THEIR COST.

In the borough account for the year 1807, we find a statement of the expenditure of monies for the construction of market houses, the sum total of which was \$915 86. The first buildings appropriated to this purpose were very small, and in the language of an old citizen, "mere sheds in comparison with the present capacious buildings."

## GREAT SICKNESS AT HARRISBURG.

About the year 1793, Harrisburg was exceedingly sickly. A fever of a violent character, similar to the Yellow Fever, prevailed, especially among the new settlers or foreigners. At the same time the Yellow Fever was prevailing in Philadelphia, and fears were entertained of its introduction into Harrisburg. A patrol was accordingly established at the lower end of the town, to prevent infected persons of Philadelphia from coming into it. A large number of Irish emigrants died, and some of the citizens; but most families of the place were to some extent afflicted.

## A MILL DAM THE SUPPOSED CAUSE THEREOF.

A mill dam, owned by two men named Landis, was generally thought to be the cause of this sickness, and the citizens entered upon decisive measures for its removal. Meetings were held, committees appointed, funds were raised and tendered to the Landis's, the mill dam removed, the mill purchased, &c., as will appear by the following extracts from papers furnished by the late Hon. J. C. Bucher and R. F. Kelker, Esq., and published in Rupp's History of Dauphin county :

## MEETING OF THE CITIZENS.

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Harrisburg, on the 16th day of January, 1795, it was unanimously agreed that two thousand and six hundred pounds be immediately assessed on the property of the citizens of the said borough; that one thousand and six hundred pounds of the said sum be collected on or before the 6th day of March next; that the remaining one thousand pounds be secured to be paid, with interest, in two equal annual instalments, and that the whole (to wit: the £1600 in cash, and the residue in bonds) be tendered to Peter and Abraham Landis, or either of them, proprietors of the mill and other water-works, with the appurtenances thereto belonging, near the borough aforesaid, as a full compensation for their property in the same; and that in case they refuse to accept the said sum as a full compensation for the said mill, with the appurtenances, that then we unanimously agree to prostrate the dam erected on the waters of Paxton creek, for the purpose of conveying water to said mill, and pay our proportionable parts of all legal expenses and damages that may accrue on any suit or suits, indictment or indictments that may be brought or prosecuted in consequence of such act or acts.

Witness our hands and date aforesaid: [Here follows the signatures of over one hundred citizens.]

The following subscriptions were made by the citizens named to the mill-dam fund, independent of the amount assessed upon their respective properties at the town meeting :

“ We the subscribers do promise to pay the sums annexed to our names, to Conrod Bombaugh, Esq., as a *gratuity* towards paying the expense of the purchase or the reduction of the mill-dam on Paxton creek, next the borough of Harrisburg, and that when called upon. Witness our hands, January 21st, 1795 :

Wm. Crabbe, . . . \$20 00	Edward Crouch, . . . \$2 00
Major Swiney, . . . 15 00	William Stewart, . . . 2 00
George Whitehill, . . . 10 00	Samuel Finney, . . . 2 00
Jacob Burckart, . . . 8 00	John Weidman, . . . 2 00
George Reitzell, . . . 6 00	James Byers, . . . 2 00
Soloman Markel, . . . 4 00	John Martin, . . . 1 00
John Peiffer, . . . 16 00	Peter Lien, . . . 1 00
Anthony Seyfort, . . . 10 00	Simon Bassler, . . . 1 00
John Maclay, . . . 20 00	George Lutz, . . . 50
Benj. Hunt, . . . 10 00	William Krebbs, . . . 1 00
Jacob Fridley, . . . 2 00	Jacob Zeigler, . . . 1 00
John Patterson, . . . 4 00	Jacob Fetter, . . . 1 00
John Gilchrist, . . . 6 00	William Porter, . . . 2 00
Joseph Weigley, . . . 8 00	C. B. . . . 1 00
John Spangler, . . . 8 00	Peter Bobe, . . . 1 00
Thomas Gregg, . . . 10 00	Christian Walborn, . . . 1 00
Thomas Dickey, . . . 2 00	Thomas Trousdale, . . . 1 00
Mordecai M'Kinney, . . . 4 00	William Allen, . . . 2 00
Samuel Awl, . . . 4 00	Robert Freckelton, . . . 2 00
Irwin & Howard, . . . 12 00	Jacob Honek, . . . 6 00
William Patterson, . . . 4 00	Charles Rowan, . . . 2 38
John M'Farland, . . . 4 00	Rudolph Kelker, . . . 4 00
Anthony Kelker, . . . 2 00	James Reed, . . . 1 00
Robert Boal, . . . 2 00	

*AN ESTIMATE of the proportion of each citizen of Harrisburg to purchase the Mill belonging to the Landis family, in order, with Divine favor, to restore the borough to its former state of health and prosperity.*

	£	s.		£	s.
Awl, Jacob, Exec., .	15	0	Brus, Peter, . . .	6	6
Allen, Jacob, . . .	4	0	Clark, Widow, . .	1	4
Allen, George, . . .	4	16	Crabb, William, . .	4	8
Allen, Joseph, . . .	4	4	Conrod, Henry, . .	10	16
Allcorn, James, . .	1	4	Cummins, John, . .	1	4
Armstrong, Andrew, .	14	12	Chambers, John, Exec., .	1	10
Abbot's House, . . .	2	14	Carson, William, . .	1	4
Benner, John, . . .	4	2	Clunie, James, . . .	17	0
Bennet, Thomas, . .	2	4	Cassel, George, . . .	8	0
Boyd, John, . . . .	2	14	Cairns, James, . . .		12
Boyd, Adam, . . . .	23	2	Comfort, John, . . .	6	18
Bucher, Jacob, . . .	6	14	Culp, Mark, . . . .	2	8
Bruner, Henry, . . .	6	6	Degar, Jacob, . . . .	2	0
Brindle, Philip, . .	7	12	Duncan, James, . . .	20	14
Boyd, Widow, . . .	5	8	Downey, Charles, . .	2	8
Bader, Henry, . . .	7	4	Denning, Peter, Exec., .	6	0
Bombach, Conrod, . .	20	4	Davis, Samuel B., . .	2	16
Berryhill, Alexander, .	12	12	Drawley, John, . . .	2	16
Bollinger, Widow, . .	1	16	Dentzell, John, . . .	5	0
Bombach, John, . . .	1	4	Dickey, William, . . .	1	4
Bleymire, John, . . .			Dickey, Thomas, . . .	2	0
Beatty, Gawin, . . .	1	0	Ebright, Jacob, . . .	16	10
Barr, Alexander, . . .	7	4	Elder, John, . . . .	4	16
Brooks, James, . . .	8	0	Earnest, John, . . .	8	0
Berryhill, Alex., Sr., .		16	Ebbert, John, . . . .	11	16
Berryhill, Samuel, . .	8	14	Fiteneyer, Widow, . .	1	4
Baker, Peter, . . . .	8	0	Elliot, James, . . . .	2	8
Burmister, Charles, . .			Enslinger, Michael, . .	1	16
Brooks, John, . . . .	7	16	Elder, Joshua, . . . .	45	0
Beaty, James, . . . .	12	0	Fisher, George, . . .	40	0
Balsly, John, . . . .	0	12	Fulton, Henry, . . . .	16	16
Bennage, Lawrence, . .	4	10	Fenton, Benjamin, . .	6	12
Barr, Robert, . . . .	4	4	Feger, John, . . . .	1	16



	£	s.		£	s.
Feder, John, . . .	4	10	House, Joseph, . . .	2	0
File, John, . . .	2	8	Heaming, Jacob, . . .	9	0
Fridley, G. & Barney, . . .	12	0	Holstein, George, . . .	9	0
Ford, Henry, . . .	7	4	Horning, Conrad, . . .	2	8
Freestone, George, . . .	7	4	Irwin, Robert, . . .	20	8
Forrest, Andrew, . . .	6	15	Issett, Henry, . . .	6	18
Fogelsanger, John, . . .	6	0	Ingram, William, . . .	3	8
Foster, Thomas, . . .	14	8	Irwin & Howard, . . .	12	0
Graydon, Alex. . . .	18	0	Kamp, William, . . .	1	0
Gregg, Thomas, . . .	6	12	Kunkle, Christian, . . .	22	18
Geiger, Barnhart, . . .	4	4	Krause, John & Andrew, . . .	10	4
Greenawalt, Christian, . . .	4	10	Kunkle, Peter, . . .	1	6
Gilmore, Moses, . . .	12	12	Kreamer, John, . . .	4	0
Gillem, John, . . .	6	14	Kapp, Michael, . . .	18	0
Gibson, Reuben, . . .	2	4	Kean, John . . .	11	4
Glass, William, . . .	4	16	Kurtz, Benjamin, . . .	8	0
Graybill, Peter, . . .	6	14	Knatcher, Michael, . . .	2	14
Graydon, William, . . .	4	16	Kapp, Michael, Jr., . . .	6	0
Girt, Frederick, . . .	8	0	King, Charlotte, . . .	1	4
Galbraith, John, . . .	1	0	Koffman, Andrew, . . .	9	0
Gregor, Martin, . . .	2	4	Kleckner, Frederick, . . .	1	0
Hess, George, . . .	7	0	Luther, John, . . .	19	16
Horning, Stephen, . . .	5	12	Laffery, Justinia, . . .	1	16
Hamilton, Widow, . . .	16	16	Lever, Nicholas, . . .	7	16
Hamilton, John, Exec., . . .	86	18	Lawyer, Adam, . . .	1	4
Hoge, John, . . .	9	0	Liphart, Henry, . . .	8	0
Hocker, John, . . .	16	4	Lever, George, . . .	2	8
Horter, Valentine, . . .	7	4	Little's house, . . .	8	0
Hoyer, George, . . .	28	14	M'Cart, Robert, . . .	1	4
Hume, John, . . .	4	10	Machemy, John, . . .	5	8
Hocker, Adam, . . .	13	10	Murry, William, . . .	8	12
Hocker, Christopher, . . .	13	10	M'Carty, Benjamin, . . .	2	16
Hillegas, Conrad, . . .	8	0	Mish, Jacob, . . .	15	18
Hill, Samuel, . . .	10	0	Maclay, John, . . .	8	12
Heafley, John, . . .	8	6	Mooney, Abraham, . . .	1	16
Heas, John, . . .	10	0	M'Mannus, Patrick, . . .	2	8
Hutman, Mathias, . . .	2	8	M'Laughlin, Alexander, . . .	1	0
Hartman, George, . . .	2	14	Murray, Patrick, . . .	1	16
Hatz, George, . . .	8	8	Mytinger, Lewis, . . .	1	4

	£	s.		£	s.
Mitchell, James, . . .	7	4	Romjeaw, John, . . .	4	4
Murphy, Barney, . . .		18	Riehm, Andrew, . . .	6	18
Miller, John, . . .	12	0	Redding, George, . . .	6	18
Morse, Moses, . . .	2	8	Ramer's Executors, . . .	8	0
Montgomery, Alex., . . .	2	4	Rothroff, Henry, . . .	2	12
Miller, Jacob, . . .	2	0	Saur, Charles, . . .	3	6
Moore, Thomas, . . .	8	0	Snyder, Simon, . . .	2	8
Montgomery, Joseph, . . .	15	0	Stoehr's house, . . .	4	0
Martin, J. & Thomas, . . .	5	14	Sweeney, Major, . . .	6	0
Mackey, James, . . .	1	16	Stehley, Widow, . . .	9	12
Miller, Charles, . . .	2	12	Seez, Balthazar, . . .	4	4
M'Allister, Archibald, . . .	1	4	Seez, Christopher, . . .	7	16
M'Caslin, John, . . .	2	2	Stephen, Hugh, . . .	2	4
Newman, John, . . .	2	2	Smith, Nicholas, . . .		18
Norton, John, . . .	15	0	Smith, Casper, . . .	9	0
Newman, Nicholas, . . .	2	18	Sweigart, Daniel, . . .	2	14
Newman, Andrew, . . .	2	18	Shoch, John, . . .	1	10
Ott, Nicholas, . . .	10	0	Smith's, Miss, . . .	5	2
Peter, Henry, . . .	1	4	Shields, John, . . .	1	4
Peffer, George, . . .	9	0	Scarlett, David, . . .	1	10
Peifer, John, . . .	2	0	Sawyer, James, . . .	6	18
Potts, Stacy, . . .	6	0	Shrom, Jacob, . . .	2	14
Poat, Joseph, . . .			Sawr's, Casper, house, . . .	2	16
Patterson, Gailbraith,* . . .	10	16	Syfert, Anthony, . . .	8	12
Pool, John, . . .	1	0	Sheets, John, . . .	1	0
Pancake, Valentine, . . .	8	0	Smith, Widow, . . .	1	4
Pancake, George, . . .	2	0	Snyder, Adam, . . .	1	10
Patterson, Robert, . . .	2	0	Sayler, Henry, . . .	4	16
Pool, John, Jr., . . .	6	0	Syboth, Tobias, . . .	9	0
Pfleager, Frederick, . . .	5	0	Snyder, John, . . .	2	8
Porter, William, . . .	8	0	Sealey, John, . . .		15
Peters, Michael, . . .	2	16	Staugh & Volesanger, . . .	1	4
Rymuth, Philip, . . .	12	0	Tresenrider, Conrad, . . .	8	0
Ritzell, Jacob, . . .	10	16	Unger, Peter, . . .	2	4
Reel, Anthony, . . .	1	18	Updegraff, Abraham, . . .		18
Reel, Philip, . . .	2	6	Whitehill, George, . . .	4	10
Ritz, John, . . .	1	10	Willson, William, . . .	7	4

\* Subscribed £20.

# ANNALS OF HARRISBURG.

97

	£	s.		£	s.
Wain, Jacob, . . .	1	0	Wallace, Benj., . . .	10	0
Walter, Peter, . . .	8	2	Wilhelm, Jacob, . . .	2	8
Whitehill, Robert, . . .	2	14	Wyeth, John, . . .	2	8
Wickersham, Hannah, . . .	6	4	Williams, Vincent, . . .	1	4
Weir, Samuel, . . .	4	0	Williams, Christopher, . . .	2	0
Weatherhold, Widow and George, . . .	6	0	Youse, Jacob, . . .	2	8
Wingert, Widow, . . .	8	8	Youse, Frederick, . . .	2	14
Welchance, Jacob, . . .	7	4	Youse, George, . . .	6	0
Weathrup, John, . . .	8	0	Young, Robert, . . .	1	4
Waltz, George, . . .	2	4	Zollinger, Jacob, . . .	14	14
Walters, Christopher, . . .	2	4	Zinn, John, . . .	10	0
Wingert, Simon, . . .	2	0	Ziegler, George, carpenter, . . .	15	0
Wilson, John, . . .	1	4	Ziegler, George, . . .	2	0
			Zerver, Frederick, . . .	2	0

## SINGLE MEN.

Thomas Elder, . . .	6	0	Michael Krell, . . .	3	12
Samuel Laird, . . .	6	0	Anthony Leyer, . . .	8	12
Andrew Mitchel, . . .	6	0	Peter Reitzel, . . .	8	12
John Patterson, . . .	6	0	James Shaw, . . .	8	12
Dr. Spangler, . . .	6	0	William Wanless, . . .	8	12
Joseph Wageline, . . .	6	0	William Martin, . . .	8	12
William Wallace, . . .	6	0	William Brown, . . .	8	12
Jacob Bener, . . .	8	12	Michael Kuntz, . . .	2	8
Adam Brady, . . .	8	12	John Lear, . . .	2	8
Jacob Burkhart, . . .	8	12	Duncan M'Gachin, . . .	2	8
John Burkinbine, . . .	8	12	James Elliot, . . .	2	8
Jacob Bretz, . . .	8	12	John Ober, . . .	2	8
Jacob Feger, . . .	8	12	James Simpson, . . .	2	8
Jacob Glass, . . .	8	12	John Umholtz, . . .	2	8
Robert Hunter, . . .	8	12	John Weaver, . . .	2	8
Philip Horing, . . .	8	12	William Porter, . . .	2	8
George Hocker, . . .	8	12	William Irwin, . . .	2	8
Bryan Hooper, . . .	8	12	Mathias Henderson, . . .	6	0
John Irwin, . . .	6	0			

## FOR LOTS OF GROUND.

Thomas Forster, . . .	1	16	Moses Gillmore, . . .	1	16
Thomas Murray, . . .	1	16	John Ebbert, . . .	1	16
Samuel Weir, . . .	1	16	Henry Bruner, . . .	1	4

	£	s.		£	s.
George Hoyer, . . .	2	8	Mengel's Executors, . .	7	4
Chris. Kunkle, . . .	1	10	Shouffler, for Shock's house, .	5	8
Michael Kapp, . . .	1	10	Henry Issetts, for Smith's		
George Reddich, . . .	1	12	house, . . .	3	12
William Macclay's land in			Conrad Bombach, for Sey-		
borough, . . .	2	14	fort's house, . . .	9	6
Peter Lyeth, . . .	2	20	Brindle and Montgomery, .	4	10
Ed. Burk's house, . . .	3	0	Haller's house, . . .	6	0
Weir's out-house, . . .	6	0	Robert Hill, . . .	1	16
John Weir's house, . . .	4	16	Casper Smith, . . .	1	16
Alexander Miller, . . .	2	8	John Boyd, . . .	10	4
Peter Pancake, . . .	6	0	Thomas Gray, . . .	8	2
James Ross, . . .	3	0	Leys, . . .	10	16
Reitzell's house, . . .	3	0	Rody Fraizer, . . .	6	0
Harris' Executors, Snyder's			William Glass, . . .	1	18
house, . . .	6	12			

## LANDLORDS WHO DO NOT LIVE IN TOWN, OR OTHER HOUSES.

Martin Gregor, . . .	2	0	Edward Lynch, . . .	8	4
Margaret Bolinger, . . .	2	0	Samuel Grimes, . . .	18	0
Mar. Stiller, . . .	3	4	Widow Witherold, . . .	18	0
Chamber's Exec., . . .	4	16	Joseph Dritt, . . .	7	16
William Wallace, . . .	7	4	Tobias Seyboth, . . .	3	0
Andrew Stewart, . . .	6	8	Welshoffer, . . .	5	8
Henry Sailor, . . .	1	0	County of Dauphin, . .	72	0
James Humes, . . .	5	12	Bricker's house, . . .	8	8
John Steinmetz, . . .	12	0	Dr. Fahnestock, . . .	8	14
Joshua Elder, . . .	22	10	Frederick Youse, . . .	9	6
Col. Shouffler, . . .	16	4	Rev. Nathaniel Snowden, .	6	0
Michael Kapp, . . .	15	0	Rev. Shaffer's house, . .	8	0
Samuel Berryhill, . . .	3	0	Rev. Hautz, . . .	8	0

In addition to the amount of money so raised, the heirs of John Harris, Messrs. David Harris, Robert Harris, William Macclay and John A. Hanna, paid \$1,600, the purchase money, or perhaps something more than the amount which the Landis's had paid for the property.

"At a meeting of the committee of seven, appointed to superintend and direct the appropriation of the monies raised for the demolition of the mill-dam, and for the further removing the nuisance in Paxton creek, April 8, 1795 :

"At Brindle's—Present, Potts, Gilmore, Berryhill, W. Graydon, Dentzell, Bucher, Kean.

"John Kean was appointed Secretary and Treasurer.

"Ordered, that the Treasurer take up the bonds due to Adam Boyd and to George Allen.

"Adjourned to Saturday evening next, at 6 o'clock, at Mr. Berryhill's.

"Saturday, 11th.—The committee met and viewed the dam, and adjourned till Monday evening at 6 o'clock, at Berryhill's.

"Monday, 13th.—Met, and the members mentioned the names of persons wishing to borrow money. Agreed, that the money be retained in the Treasury a few days longer.

"Agreed, that on Saturday next, at 1 o'clock, the bell be rung, and the inhabitants assemble and demolish the remainder of the dam.

#### THE MILL-DAM DESTROYED BY THE CITIZENS.

"Saturday, 18th.—The committee met, and proceeded with a number of the inhabitants to the dam. Committee hired four persons to open the bed of the creek twelve feet wide, which was done, and the persons employed were paid six dollars, which was raised by voluntary contribution on the spot.

"Saturday, 25th April, 1795.—The committee met. Peter, John and Abraham Landis attended, and offered to take \$2,000 for the water-right, which the committee positively refused.

#### THE MILL SEAT PURCHASED BY THE CITIZENS.

"April 25, 1795.—Peter, John and Abraham Landis sold to Stacy Potts, Moses Gilmore, William Graydon, Jacob Bucher,

John Kean, John Dentzell, and Alexander Berryhill, of the borough of Harrisburg (a committee chosen at a public meeting of the inhabitants of the said borough, at the court room, on the 7th of April,) sold and conveyed to them their mill, &c., for £2,638 4s. 6d., "to hold and to have the said two pieces of lands, houses, mills, mill machinery, &c."

This sum, as before stated, was raised by taxing the citizens. The payments were made in three annual instalments; one-half of the amount assessed was paid in 1794; one-half the balance in 1795, and the balance in 1796. For example, a citizen taxed £4 had to pay £2 in 1794, £1 in 1795, and £1 in 1796.

It may be remarked that some citizens who refused to contribute to the subscription, were obliged to leave the town. No violence was offered to them, but no one would employ them in their several pursuits, and they at length went elsewhere.

The mill seat, with the privileges of a dam and mill-race, was originally purchased from John Harris, J.r, by the Landis's, April 16, 1790; subsequently they purchased a small piece of land from Gen. John A. Hanna, adjoining that purchased from Mr. Harris.

The mill was erected about one-quarter of a mile below Harrisburg, about as low down as the old "White House," between the "old mill road" and the canal; and the race extended up along or nearly along the present route of the Pennsylvania canal, to a lane which ran across to the ridge, about the upper line of the brickyard field opposite Pratt's Rolling Mill, where the dam was erected.

#### ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE MILL-DAM TROUBLES.

Another writer, in describing the mill-dam difficulties, states that "the money raised by subscription was tendered to the Landis's, who refused it. The citizens then prepared for the forcible removal of the dam; and the Landis's threatened to use

force to prevent it. The citizens accordingly marched in a body to the dam, on a cold, snowy day in March. The owners were there with several men, armed with guns, threatening to fire. The citizens, however, advanced into the water, and the dam was soon demolished. The Landis' threatened suit, and the citizens handed them a list of several hundred names to be sued; but the proprietors finally took the money."

#### ALEXANDER GRAYDON, ESQ., ON THE SICKNESS.

Alexander Graydon, Esq., an uncle of H. Murray Graydon, Esq., of Harrisburg, in his "Memoirs," a work of sterling interest, alludes to the sickness at this place while speaking of the Yellow Fever that raged in Philadelphia. He says:

"Measures were taken in almost every town and village to prohibit the entry of persons suspected of infection; and even fugitives from the seat of it, though in health, were regarded with a jealous eye. Some of the people of Harrisburg were for following the example of their neighbors, though a malady not less fatal than that in Philadelphia was raging among themselves. But the difference was, that one was called a plague, the other but a simple fever. It is somewhat remarkable, that if yellow fever is of foreign origin, as insisted upon by many, that a disease of a similar type should make its appearance at the same time on the banks of the Susquehanna, at the distance of an hundred miles. Shall we say, that the state of the atmosphere which generated the one, was favorable to the diffusion of the other? This, I believe, is the doctrine of those who contend that the yellow fever is of exotic growth, and always imparted when it appears among us. I would venture, however, no opinion on the subject. With respect to the mortality produced by the two diseases, that at Harrisburg was, I believe, in proportion to the population of the place, as great as that at Philadelphia. I cannot take upon me minutely to describe the

symptoms of the Harrisburg disease, nor were they the same in all that were sick ; but a general one was, an affection of the stomach, or *nausea*, with violent retchings, and a yellowness of the skin. Some were ill a week, some longer, some died in two or three days from the time of their being seized, and others who were walking about with symptoms only of the ague, suddenly took ill and expired. The *black vomit*, which has some time been supposed peculiar to the yellow fever, appeared in some cases. I was attacked with a quartan ague about the middle of September, but had none of the grievous symptoms of the malignant fever which prevailed.

“The matter which produces ague, i. e., *miasmata*, caused by vapors from low and marshy situations and waters, rendered baneful from certain adventitious circumstances, may be pronounced to be the support or aliment of all diseases, more particularly of the latter, perhaps, when the exhalations are rendered more than commonly noxious, from the general state of the atmosphere—this cause existed at Harrisburg. A mill-dam had been erected the season before on the Paxton, rather a turbid and sluggish stream, within five or six hundred yards of the middle of the town, on its eastern side. The obstruction must have spread the water over a surface of from eight to ten acres; and this, co-operating with a state of the atmosphere, unusually morbid this season in such situations, may fully account for the fear which prevailed.

“In the fall of the year 1792, there were some cases of it, and still more in that of 1794, equally malignant, after which the mill-dam was removed. I have been the more particular on this subject, though without being able to offer anything satisfactory, from knowing it to have been a matter of some interest with the physicians of Philadelphia to ascertain the nature of the Harrisburg disease, thence to deduce data towards the solution of the question, whether the yellow fever, as appearing in our cities, be, or not, a malady of exclusively foreign origin.”



The "Oracle of Dauphin," printed here at the time, contains a number of spirited communications upon the mill-dam troubles.

One writer, in alluding to the tender of the terms of sale demanded by the Landis' a year previous, says: "Should they (Landis') refuse to accept them now, there cannot be a doubt but that we shall be fully justified, both upon the principles of law and justice, in prostrating the dam. \* \* \* \* As to those persons who may refuse to contribute, in proportion to their ability, to do away with this dreadfully destructive nuisance, I hope their fellow-citizens will have spirit enough solemnly to agree to have no kind of dealings with them, and (as far as in them lies) by all just means to oblige them to leave the town, and make room for others who may have more sense than humanity."

Another writer says: "Fellow-citizens, you have acted justly, and you have acted with patience, in offering to pay the man's price before you came to the resolution of destroying this reservoir of contagion. \* \* \* Go on, gentlemen, in an undertaking which is founded in such justice; make up the £2600, and tender it according to the man's terms; and if he does not receive it, have respect for yourselves, for your families, and for your solemn resolution—TEAR DOWN THE MILL DAM!"

The editor of the "Oracle" wrote as follows: "On Thursday last, a committee appointed by the citizens of Harrisburg waited on Abram Landis and Peter Landis, and tendered the whole demand they made last year for the mill, with its appurtenances, agreeable to the terms they had proposed, but they now thought proper to require a much greater sum; wherefore, apprehending that the owners of the said mill intended, through the distressing calamities thought to be occasioned by the mill-dam, to extort an enormous price from the people for the enjoyment of health, by the unreasonable sum now demanded for the mill, they did almost unanimously proceed, on Saturday afternoon last,

to take down and destroy that intolerable nuisance which has for three years past rendered this borough a mere hospital and graveyard; and therefore it is now hoped that, under the blessing of Divine Providence, this once flourishing place may be restored to its former state of healthiness and prosperity."

#### FIRST NEWSPAPER IN HARRISBURG.

The first newspaper printed in Harrisburg was established in 1791, by Mr. John Wyeth, father of the Messrs. Wyeth still residing here. It was called "The Oracle of Dauphin, and Harrisburg Advertiser," and was published every Monday, in Mulberry street, at fifteen shillings per annum. It was a common folio, and its pages measured 17 by 9½ inches, containing three columns each. We have before us several bound files of this paper from 1794 to 1802, from which we extract a number of items that will be read now with interest.

#### THE "WHISKEY INSURRECTION"—UNITED STATES TROOPS AT HARRISBURG.

1794, *Sept.*—"On Friday, three companies of horse, containing in all 130, arrived from Philadelphia, the whole under the command of Capt. John Dunlap. The company of light dragoons, commanded by Capt. John Irwin, of this town; the corps of light infantry, commanded by Capt. George Fisher, with the most distinguished officers of the county, were paraded all in complete uniform, in order to receive them. After the usual ceremonies, the dragoons dismounted to refresh themselves, and yesterday morning they proceeded to Carlisle."

"Tuesday last, passed through this place, on their way to Gen. Wayne's army, about 80 regular troops, commanded by Captain Lyman. They were from the State of Massachusetts, and in good spirits."

"Thursday evening, arrived here from New Jersey, under the command of Richard Howell, Esq., Governor of that State, about 370 dragoons, completely mounted and equipped—all volunteers. It raining very rapidly on their arrival, the citizens of Harrisburg, with their usual degree of affection to the sons of liberty and patriotism, voluntarily opened their doors for their reception. The next morning they crossed the Susquehanna, on their way to Carlisle, after expressing their satisfaction in the following manner :

'The commander of the Jersey militia detachment feels himself bound to acknowledge the politeness of the citizens of Harrisburg to his company, and requests that their gratitude and his own, joined with the highest respect, may be signified in a proper manner.

RICHARD HOWELL,  
*Commandant Jersey detachment.*

HARRISBURG, Sept. 25, 1794.' "

"HARRISBURG, Dec. 1, 1794.—On Tuesday last, arrived in town from the westward, Capt. M'Pherson's company of Blues, belonging to Philadelphia, and the next morning proceeded homeward.

"And on Saturday last, Brigadier General Proctor's brigade also arrived, and this morning early marched for their respective homes.

"Col. Chambers' brigade, we hear, will also arrive this day or to-morrow, with one hundred prisoners."

#### VOLUNTEERS FROM HARRISBURG CALLED INTO SERVICE DURING THE INSURRECTION.

The following is a list of the companies composing the second Pennsylvania regiment, ordered into service by President Washington during the "Whiskey Insurrection." The regiment was composed principally of citizens of Harrisburg and vicinity.

*Regimental Officers.*—Lieutenant Colonel, Thomas Forster ; Major, Frederick Hummel ; Paymaster, John Brown ; Sergeant Major, Philip Stohr.

*Infantry.*—Captain Wallace's company, composed of 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 2 corporals, and 32 privates—served 1 month and 20 days.

*Riflemen.*—Captain Ainsworth's company, composed of 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 2 sergeants, 1 corporal, and 19 privates—served 1 month and 20 days.

Captain Devin's company, composed of 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, and 30 privates—served 1 month and 20 days.

The above list of companies is taken from the advertisement of the paymaster of the troops, published in the "Oracle of Dauphin," in January, 1795. It is presumed that the companies named were only *mustered* into the service of the United States, but did not march to the scene of the rebellion.

A company of volunteers, however, from this place, commanded by Capt. George Fisher, father of J. Adams Fisher, Esq., *actually marched* as far as Carlisle on their way to the seat of the rebellion. At Carlisle, Capt. Fisher was elected Major of the battalion of troops from this and adjoining counties.

#### GEN. WASHINGTON IN HARRISBURG.

"On Friday last, (October 3, 1794,) the President of the United States arrived in town. The pleasure excited in beholding, for the first time, our beloved chief in this borough, is not easily described. The following address was delivered to him by the Burgesses, in behalf of the town :

*To his Excellency George Washington, President of the United States of America :*

SIR : We, the Burgesses and citizens of Harrisburg, while we rejoice in the opportunity of presenting our respects to

a character so justly revered and dear to Americans, we cannot but lament that we should owe it to an interruption of the peace and prosperity of our country, those constant objects of our public care. We trust, however, that the just indignation which fires the breasts of all virtuous citizens at the unprovoked outrages committed by these lawless men, who are in opposition to one of the mildest and most equal of governments of which the condition of man is susceptible, will excite such exertions, as to crush the spirit of disaffection wherever it has appeared, and that our political horizon will shine brighter than ever on a dispersion of the clouds which now menace and obscure it.

Though our sphere of action is too limited to produce any important effects, yet we beg leave to assure your Excellency that, so far as it extends, our best endeavors shall not be wanting to support the happy constitution and wise administration of our government.

Signed, in behalf of the borough,

CONROD BOMBAUGH,

ALEX. BERRYHILL,

*Burgesses.*

HARRISBURG, October 3, 1794.

GEN. WASHINGTON'S REPLY.

*To the Burgesses and other citizens of Harrisburg :*

GENTLEMEN : In declaring to you the genuine satisfaction I derive from your very cordial support, I will not mingle any expression of the painful sensations which I experience from the occasion which has drawn me hither. You will be at no loss to do justice to my feelings. But relying on that kindness of Providence towards our country which every adverse appearance hitherto has served to manifest, and counting upon the tried good sense and patriotism of the great body of our fellow-citizens, I do not hesitate to indulge with you the expectation of such an issue as will serve to confirm the blessings we enjoy under a constitution that well deserves the confidence and support of virtuous and enlightened men. To class the inhabitants

of Harrisburg among this number, is only to bear testimony to the zealous and efficient exertions which they have made towards the defence of the laws.

GEORGE WASHINGTON."

#### MR. GRAYDON ON THIS OCCURRENCE.

Mr. Graydon, who then resided at Harrisburg, speaks of this occurrence in his "Memoirs," as follows :

"The Western Expedition, as it was called, gave me an opportunity of seeing a number of my old friends from Philadelphia; and it afforded also a momentary triumph to the poor handful of Harrisburg federalists, who were stated by their opponents to amount to only five.

A *French flag*, which had been flying at the Court House, then building, had been the cause of some squabbling in the newspaper; and this flag was peremptorily ordered to be taken down by the troops from the city. Had I been disposed for revenge, I might, upon this occasion, have been fully gratified, as I was repeatedly asked who had caused it to be put up, and impliedly censured for giving evasive answers to the questions; which, from their manner, evinced a disposition to treat the authors of it much more roughly than would have been agreeable to me.

"Conspicuous among the crowd that rolled on to the eastward was Gov. Mifflin. On the day of his arrival he convened the people at the market house, and gave them an animated harangue, in which there was nothing exceptionable, save a monstrous suggestion that the British had stirred up the discontents to the westward, and been the cause of the present opposition to the Government.

"A few days after the Governor, Gen. Washington, accompanied by Col. Hamilton, came on. After waiting on them, I prevailed upon the Burgesses to present an address to the President, which I sketched out, and which, from the cordiality of the answer, appeared to have been well received."

## WHERE WASHINGTON LODGED.

In the preface to Napey's Harrisburg Directory for 1842, it is stated that "General Washington's head-quarters while at Harris' Ferry, on the Western expedition, were in a small frame house which stood, until the last few years, at the corner of Vine and Paxton streets." A similar statement is made by another writer, in the preface to Osler & Irvin's Harrisburg Directory for 1856.

This account, from all the evidence the compiler has been able to gather, is incorrect. The "small frame house" above alluded to was built for, and used for a number of years after Washington's visit here, as a *ferry house*, not a house of "public entertainment," but a common rendezvous for the ferrymen, and, in the language of an old citizen, who often visited it, "a place where people went to get booked for a passage over the river."

The only houses of public entertainment that existed in that immediate neighborhood in 1794—the time of Washington's visit—was that known as the "Bell Tavern," kept by one Simon Snyder, a vendue cryer by profession, and that kept by Nicholas Ott. The former was situated on the site of the new brick house recently erected by Mr. Shellenberger, on Front street, a few doors below what is now called Washington avenue, and the latter is still occupied as a tavern by Mr. Hogan. Both of these buildings were wooden structures, the latter at that time painted red, and were what might be termed second-rate taverns; hence it is not likely that the good citizens of Harrisburg would have permitted their beloved Chief Magistrate to lodge here, if they had any better accommodations to offer.

Mr. Peter Snyder, still living, was a lad about fourteen years of age when Washington visited the borough. Was standing at the corner of Mulberry and Second streets when Washington passed up the latter street in a carriage. The General had his

hat off, and Mr. S. distinctly recollects his commanding form, as he stood up in the carriage, returning the salutations of the surrounding multitude. The carriage containing the General passed up into Market square, followed by an immense concourse of people. Is pretty certain the General lodged over night at the tavern situated on the east corner of Market street and the square. Never heard any other place assigned as his lodging place while here but that. The General was accompanied to the ferry next morning by the burgesses, Messrs. Bombaugh and Berryhill; and when he had embarked upon the flat to cross the river, there was a discharge of artillery, stationed on the bank of the river, near the graveyard.

Mr. Henry Peffer, still living, was a lad about six years of age when Washington passed through the borough. Recollects the form and features of the General as he passed through Second street into the square. Heard the General deliver his address in reply to the burgesses, from the steps on the Market square side of the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder. Believes that the General also lodged at that tavern, but is not positive. Has never heard any other place but that tavern assigned as his quarters while here.

Mr. James R. Boyd, still living, was a lad about four years old when Washington arrived here. Came with his mother from Front street to Chestnut and Second streets, where he saw the General pass up the latter street into the square, accompanied by a great crowd of people. Concurs with Mr. Peffer in the belief that Washington made his head-quarters while here at the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder. Never heard any other place assigned as his stopping place while here.

The father of Francis Wyeth has often told him that Washington lodged over night at the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder. Mr. Wyeth, with Mr. Thomas Elder, was boarding at that tavern at the time.

Mr. Jacob Ziegler, still living, came to Harrisburg in De-



ember, 1794, two months after Washington's visit here. Has always heard that upon that occasion Washington lodged at the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder. The house had been used as a tavern eight or ten years before his arrival here.

Mr. Benjamin Taylor, still living, was about fifteen years old when Washington arrived here, but was out of town upon that occasion. Has always heard the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder as the place where Washington stopped during his stay here; never heard it contradicted.

Messrs. Valentine Hummel, John Kelker, Robert Gillmore, George Eicholtz, J. Adams Fisher, Jeremiah Reese, and other old citizens, all concur in the belief, from what they have always heard, that Washington lodged while here at the tavern indicated by Mr. Snyder.

From the above testimony it is pretty conclusive that during Gen. Washington's visit to the borough he made his headquarters at the brick tavern which, a few years ago, stood on the site of the present "Jones House," at the east corner of Market street and the square, and that it was named the "Washington House" in remembrance of that event.

It is probable, however, that a portion of Gen. Washington's staff, with the small troop of dragoons composing his escort, lodged for the night in the neighborhood of the lower ferry, perhaps at Ott's or the Bell tavern. The detachments of troops that had previously passed through the borough to join the main body of the army on the Western expedition, *bivouaced* for a few hours on the bank of the river, near the lower ferry. Some of these troops passed over the river at what was called the upper ferry, at a point above where the Water-house is now situated.

#### POSTMASTERS OF HARRISBURG.

The first postmaster in Harrisburg under the federal constitution was Mr. John Wyeth, editor of the "Oracle." The Post

Office was kept with his bookstore, at his residence in the building at present owned and occupied by Mr. John Knepley, on the south side of Second street, below Mulberry. We append a list of the postmasters who succeeded Mr. Wyeth, to the present day :

John Wright,	Isaac G. M'Kinley,
Mrs. John Wright,	A. J. Jones,
James Peacock,	John H. Brant,
George W. Porter.	

#### FIRST MAIL CARRIER FROM HARRISBURG NORTHWARD.

Mr. Benj. A. Taylor, still a resident of the borough, was one of the first mail carriers from Harrisburg northward. His route extended to Alexandria, Huntingdon county, and the mails were carried on horseback. In this way it was usual for him to ride two hundred and sixteen miles every six days.

#### THE FERRY TO LET.

The following are among the advertisements in the "Oracle" for March 23, 1795 :

"HARRIS' FERRY.—To be let, for the term of one year, by public vendue, on Wednesday, the 25th of March instant, at the house of Mr. Conrod Bombaugh, in Harrisburg. Attendance and terms made known by

VAL. HUMMEL,  
CONROD BOMBAUGH,  
DAVID KRAUSE,  
*Commissioners.*"

#### THE HARRIS MANSION TO LET.

In February, 1795, Mr. David Harris, of Baltimore, a son of the founder of Harrisburg, advertised several valuable lots for sale on Second and Back streets ; also, "his large lot and stone

house, built of the best materials, containing four spacious rooms on the first story, with fire-places in each, and six rooms on the second, with a large stone kitchen, and a stable which will contain thirty or forty horses;" adding, "there is an excellent cellar under the whole house, divided into three apartments, with vaults, &c. This property is under rent till the first day of April, 1796, at £80 per annum."

#### A NEGRO FOR SALE.

"A healthy, stout negro wench, about thirty-three years of age. She is excellent for cooking, washing, and any kind of house or kitchen work, and understands feeding cattle, and any work necessary on a farm. For terms, apply to the Printer."

Similar advertisements frequently appear at this period.

#### A FOURTH OF JULY IN HARRISBURG SIXTY-TWO YEARS AGO.

"Last Saturday presented to our view another anniversary of Columbia's freedom, being twenty-three years since a noble band of her legitimate sons assumed the daring effrontery to declare us a SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT NATION, capable of declaring war, concluding peace, contracting alliances, capturing whole armies, transporting, hanging and shooting tories, &c. &c., without the assistance of 'these our *royal letters patent*.' This memorable day was distinguished by every demonstration of joy and mirth which the importance of the occasion could possibly inspire true sons of patriotism in this town. About 12 o'clock the bell rang as a signal for the citizens to proceed to the *Federal Spring*, [on the ridge near Haehlen's tavern, north-east of Harrisburg] where, and under the boughs of the spreading arbor, they partook of a public entertainment provided by a committee appointed for that purpose; after which, Gen. Hanna being unanimously appointed to preside as President, the follow-

ing toasts were given under a discharge of cannon from citizen Fenton."—*Oracle*, July 6, 1795.

#### REMOVING OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE SUSQUEHANNA.

"On Wednesday next, the committee appointed by the Governor and directors of the Maryland Susquehannah Canal, meet in this town to concert with the citizens of Pennsylvania on the most eligible mode of removing the obstructions in the river Susquehannah. In consequence of which the inhabitants of this town, and those of the neighborhood, are requested to meet at the Court House this afternoon at 4 o'clock, in order to appoint a committee to co-operate in a measure calculated to promote the interest of the public in general."—*Oracle*.

At a respectable meeting of a number of gentlemen from the counties of Lancaster, York, Dauphin, Cumberland, Mifflin, Huntingdon, and Northumberland, in the State of Pennsylvania, and the counties of Cecil and Harford, in Maryland, held at Harrisburg, on Wednesday, the 12th day of August, 1795, for the purpose of concerting the most eligible mode of improving the navigation of the river Susquehanna, it was

*Resolved, unanimously*, That subscriptions be immediately opened to raise a sum of money for removing the obstructions and improving the navigation in the bed of the river Susquehanna between Wright's Ferry and the Maryland line; and that half the money thus subscribed be made payable on the 11th day of September next, and the other half on the 1st day of August, 1796.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be empowered and requested to solicit subscriptions for the purpose aforesaid, and that they transmit monthly to the Treasurer hereinafter named, a particular account of all the monies subscribed on their respective lists.

[Here follows the names of persons appointed in Cumberland,

Mifflin, Northumberland, Luzerne, Huntingdon, Bedford, Lancaster, York, and Philadelphia counties, to solicit subscriptions ]

The following named gentlemen were appointed for Dauphin county: John Kean, Archibald M'Allister, Martin Weaver, John Murray, James M'Creight.

Messrs. Ephraim Blane, Robert Whitehill, John Bratton, George Gale and Samuel Hughes were appointed commissioners to superintend the work; and Stacy Potts, Esq., of Dauphin county, Treasurer of the fund.

After this organization, the association published a spirited address, dated at Harrisburg, "to all those interested in the navigation of the river Susquehanna;" but we can find no record of its subsequent operations.

The following advertisement appears in the "Oracle" of the same date with the preceding:

"WANTED.—A number of persons who are acquainted with blowing rocks and removing obstructions in the Susquehanna river, between the mouths of the Swatara creek and Juniata; those that can be well recommended shall have generous wages. Attendance will be given at Harrisburg during court week for making contracts, by

SAMUEL BOYD and  
ELIJAH GREEN."

#### HARRISBURG LIBRARY COMPANY.

As early as 1794, some of the public spirited citizens of Harrisburg organized themselves into an association for mental improvement and the promotion of the arts and sciences. This organization was called "The Mechanical Society of Harrisburg," and it held weekly meetings, generally at some one of the taverns in the borough. We find among its members the names of Stacy Potts, Henry Beader, Jacob Bucher, Jacob Reitzoll and Samuel Hill. From this Society originated the "Harrisburg Library Company," which was organized in the

early part of 1795, by the election of the following named gentlemen officers for the ensuing year, viz :

*Directors*.—John Kean, Rev. Henry Möeller, Gen. John A. Hanna, William Graydon, Adam Boyd, John Dentzell, Rev. Nathaniel Snowden and Stacy Potts.

*Secretary*—Henry Fulton.

*Treasurer*—Stacy Potts.

#### THE FOURTH OF JULY IN HARRISBURG, 1796.

HARRISBURG, July 11, 1796.—“The Fourth of July was observed by the citizens of this town with much hilarity and social glee. The dawn of that auspicious morning was announced to the inhabitants and neighborhood by a discharge from the field piece of Captain Kean’s company. At 12 o’clock the citizens assembled at the Market square, formed a procession, and marched to Federal hill, preceded by Lieut. Elder’s Light Dragoons, the President and Managers of the day, Captain Fisher’s Light Infantry and Captain Kean’s company of Artillery, the Sheriff, the reverend Clergy and Magistrates. After partaking of a collation, the President, Gen. Hanna, gave the following toasts, each of which was accompanied by a discharge from Captain Kean’s Artillery and Captain Fisher’s Light Infantry.”  
*Oracle*.

#### THEATRE AT HARRISBURG IN 1796.

“The Harrisburg Company of Comedians, we hear, intend giving the public a specimen of their abilities, some evening during the present week. *Attendance and reasonable credit will be given.*”—*Oracle*, Sept. 12, 1796.

“A number of young gentlemen of this town, on the evenings of Thursday and Friday last, performed the celebrated comedy of “The Prisoner at Large,” to a very numerous audience; considering the many inconveniences which these young men

have surmounted in order to give a few hours amusement to *this little social village*, great credit is due them for their great perseverance and politeness."—*Oracle*.

## SQUIRRELS BY THE BARREL.

"According to modern prediction, the ensuing winter will be very severe indeed; for never, perhaps, since the memory of man, were there known a greater quantity of squirrels than has been in this neighborhood since some days. We are told that during last week several hundred per day crossed the Susquehanna from Cumberland into this county. Some of the inhabitants, it is said, who live near the banks of the river, have been enabled to salt *barrels* of them for their winter's use."—*Oracle*, September 26, 1796.

## MISCELLANY.

Among the business men in Harrisburg during the years 1794-'5 and '6, we observe by the advertisements in the "*Oracle*" the names of Andrew Forrest, druggist, Chestnut street, near Front; Doctor John Spangler, Market square; Robert Irwin, dry goods; Gregg & M'Connel, dry goods, Front street; John Kean, dry goods and groceries; Irwin & Howard, dry goods, Market street; Peter Fahnestock, druggist, Walnut st.; Stacy Potts, lumber; John Wyeth, books, &c., Second street; Obed Fahnestock, books, "opposite the sign of the King of Prussia;" Dalzell & Awl, groceries, Front st.; Andrew Crouse, tobacconist, Paxton street, "next to Mr. Robert Harris;" Gustine & Ripton, groceries, brick house at the corner of Front and Chestnut streets; Stewart & Wier, merchandise, "Second street, at the sign of the Lion and Unicorn;" Thos. Murray, dry goods, Market street, "near the court-house;" Curtis & Dutton, button makers, opposite Casper Smith's tavern; Thos. Foster, dry goods and groceries, Front street; Jacob Singer,

dry goods, Market square; Lepelletier & Benoist, groceries, &c., Front street; George Reininger, rope maker, Chestnut st.; Jacob Fridley, hatter, Front street; Jacob Burekhart, merchandise, turning, &c, Market square.

Messrs. Peter Shaw, Anthony Seyfort, Alpheus Johnson, ——— Moderwell, Richard Dougherty, and John M'Cann, respectively, advertise that they will "teach the young idea to shoot;" and while the above named gentlemen directed the heads of their pupils, Messrs. Richard Haughton, ——— Currier, and M. Peticollas, from France, instructed their feet in the "poetry of motion."

The principal hotel at Harrisburg in 1796 was that known as the "Dauphin Hotel," at the sign of the "Indian Chief," kept by John H. Shaeffer, who devotes near a column of the "Oracle" in pointing out the superior merits of his establishment, in a style little less grandiloquent than that done now-a-days by the landlords of some of our hotel palaces. We cannot learn positively where this hotel was situated. Some old citizens think it was the building afterwards known as the "Washington House," at the east corner of Market street and the square.

#### PATRIOTISM OF THE CITIZENS IN 1797.

The difficulties that existed between the American Government and the Directory of the French people in 1797, created an unusual degree of excitement throughout the country, and preparations for war were made everywhere. The following extracts will show the patriotism evinced by the citizens of Harrisburg on that occasion :

"On Monday last, agreeable to notice given, the company of Light Infantry commanded by Captain Matthew Henry paraded at this place. Their commander, in a very animated address, informed them of the occasion of their meeting; when the young gentlemen unanimously offered their services as part of



the quota of this State—to hold themselves in readiness to march when called upon.”—*Oracle*, Nov. 15, 1797.

“On Saturday last, Captain Connelly’s Artillery met at their usual parade in this town. The Captain addressed the company in a style of real patriotism, in which he plainly evinced the necessity and virtue of supporting the rights and laws of our country in time of danger. In consequence, we hear, all the members present, except one, voluntarily offered themselves as a part of the quota to be furnished by this State.”—*Oracle*, Nov. 22, 1797.

In May, 1798, a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of the borough was held at the house of Mr. Andrew Ber-ryhill, when an address to the President, (John Adams,) of which the following is an extract, was agreed upon :

“That in our opinion the conduct and designs of the French Republic (scarcely aggravated or made more apparent by the profligacy of their avowal) are such as to produce alarm and indignation in every breast which feels for the honor and happiness of America, and to excite the apprehensions of every man, of whatever nation or country, who may place a sense of justice, of morality and piety among the ornaments of his nature and the blessings of society. That under this persuasion, we hold it wise to be prepared for every event, and shall therefore most cheerfully acquiesce in such measures of defence as may be adopted by you, sir, and the other branches of the Administration, at the present momentous period.”

The address was transmitted to the President, who acknowledged its receipt in an appropriate and extended reply, which commenced as follows :

“*To the Inhabitants of the Borough of Harrisburg, in the State of Pennsylvania :*

GENTLEMEN : Your address has been presented to me by Mr Hartley, Mr. Sitgreaves, and Mr. Hanna, three of your Representatives in Congress.

I know not which to admire most, the conciseness, the energy, the elegance, or profound wisdom of this excellent address."

The reply concluded as follows :

"That America may have the glory of arresting this torrent of error, vice and imposture, is my fervent wish ; and if sentiments as great as those from Harrisburg should be found universally to prevail, as I doubt not they will, my hopes will be as sanguine as my wishes.

JOHN ADAMS.

PHILA., 12th May, 1798."

#### INDIAN VISITORS.

"Last Friday crossed the Susquehanna near this town, on their way to the President of the United States, sixty-three Indians and seven squaws, having in their custody a white man prisoner, (charged with having murdered one of their chiefs,) whom they mean to demand of the President, in order to *sacrifice according to their custom*, [pine-knot splinters and the stake !] and agreeable to treaty. It is said they are the principal Indians who fought at St. Clair's defeat."—*Oracle*, June 6, 1798.

#### SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.

On the night of June 18, 1799, two farmers residing near this place took a tour in the woods, in company with their dogs, to hunt racoons. They had not proceeded far ere they descried one of the animals they were in quest of, which they immediately shot. As the weather was intensely warm, and they expecting to be abroad some time, they concluded not to keep the meat of their game, and therefore took the skin off and threw the carcass away. The party continued scouring the woods during the greatest part of the night, but with indifferent success ; at last, however, they observed their dogs had discovered something, which by their constant howling, induced the farmers to go to

them. They found, on going up, their faithful servants attentively watching an old log, and upon making incisions in the same with axes, judge of their astonishment to see running from the log the *very racoon whose hide they already had in their possession!* This circumstance is related in the 'Oracle of Dauphin' of 1799, as a fact.

#### THE SEDITION LAW.

The only arrest in Harrisburg under what is termed the "Adams sedition law," is noticed in the following paragraph from the "Oracle of Dauphin" of August, 28, 1799 :

"On Saturday morning last, William Nichols, marshal of Pennsylvania, arrested Benj. Moyer and Conrad Fahnestock, printers and proprietors of the 'Dutch Aurora' of this borough, for publishing a 'false, scandalous and malicious libel against the laws and government of the United States.' They have given bail for their appearance at the District Court of the United States, to be held at the city of Philadelphia, October, 11, themselves in \$2000, and four securities in \$1000 each."

The marshal who made the arrest was accompanied to the borough by a troop of horsemen, and they made their entry into town up Front street.

#### DEATH OF GEN. WASHINGTON.

The "Oracle of Dauphin" of December 30, 1799, appears in mourning for the death of Gen. Washington.

"At a meeting of a number of gentlemen of Harrisburg, at Capt. Lee's, [old Washington House] on Monday evening, December 23, it was, among other resolutions,

"*Resolved*, That as a mark of our unfeigned regret upon this melancholy occasion, we and our respective families will wear mourning for one month; and that we will recommend to such of our fellow-citizens as have similar feelings, to unite with us

in this small testimonial of respect and veneration for his (Washington's) illustrious character."

The citizens generally carried out the recommendation of the meeting.

On the 9th of January, 1800, the citizens of Middletown and surrounding country testified their sorrow for the loss of the nation's favorite by meeting at the farm-house of Geo. Fisher, Esq., and moving therefrom in the following order to the meeting house:

Trumpeteer.

Cavalry on foot, swords drawn.

Infantry, arms reversed, by platoons inverted.

Rifle company, arms reversed.

Militia officers in uniform.

Music.

Standard.

Surgeons.

Clergy.

Pall bearers.

Young ladies in white.

Ancient citizens first.

Citizens in general by two.


Boys by pairs.

Having arrived at the meeting house, the troops formed lines right and left, when the clergy, pall bearers and citizens entered, followed by the troops, while the Dead March from Saul was performed by the organist.

The exercise was opened by a short prayer, and singing part of the 90th psalm.

Rev. Mr. Snowden and Rev. Mr. Möller then delivered impressive and well adapted addresses.

Most of the military who joined in the procession were from Harrisburg.



## EARTHQUAKE AT HARRISBURG.

On Thursday morning, the 20th of November, 1800, two shocks of an earthquake were sensibly felt by the inhabitants of Harrisburg and vicinity. The first took place about fifteen minutes before five o'clock, and lasted about forty seconds. In some houses the effects were more visible than in others; the knockers on some of the doors rapped as though they were moved by hands, and in one dwelling a set of china was shaken from a table and broken to pieces. The fright occasioned many of the inhabitants to rise from their beds.

The second shock took place five minutes after five o'clock, and lasted about half a minute. It was not as severe as the former, but was sensibly felt in every dwelling. In both instances a rumbling noise accompanied the trembling of the earth.

## HARRISBURG IN 1808-'9-'10-'11.

In the year 1808, Mr. John Wyeth's paper, having reached its seventeenth volume, appeared enlarged from three to four columns, rendering its size nearly as large as the present daily papers of the borough. Its title at this period was simply "The Oracle of Dauphin," the words "and Harrisburg Advertiser," which formed part of the title when it was first published, being omitted. The publication office had also been removed from Mulberry to Second street, where it remained until September, 1809, when it was again removed to Market Square. A large portion of each number of the paper is devoted to foreign news, detailing particulars of the Napoleonic wars.

The following is a summary of the advertisements and items of local interest which appeared in the files of this paper from October, 1808, to October, 1811:

1808, *October*.—The Harrisburg and Philadelphia stage advertised to start once a week.

Frederick Wolfersberger, Sheriff.

Result of the State and county election held in Harrisburg:

*Governor*—Simon Snyder received 534 votes.

James Ross " 92 "

John Spayd " 3 "

*Congress*—Robert Whitehill " 546 "

David Baird " 539 "

John Glonninger " 84 "

Wm. Alexander " 78 "

*Assembly*—Jacob Bucher " 557 "

James Wallace " 559 "

Andrew Shultz " 561 "

John Stoner " 55 "

Jacob Beam " 49 "

Chris. Ley " 49 "

Hon. John Joseph Henry, President Judge of the county court, offers to dispose of ten different tracts of land.

A new mail stage line between Harrisburg and Alexandria, Huntingdon county, is advertised to run once a week. Fare for passage, \$6.

A dancing school "at Mr. Norton's large room" is advertised.

Samuel M'Clintock advertises a night school at his residence, corner of Front and Market streets.

*November 12.*—The friends of Mr. Simon Snyder, in Harrisburg, commemorated that gentleman's election to the Executive chair by a public dinner yesterday. Over one hundred and fifty persons sat down to the repast. In the evening a number of the houses were illuminated, and a huge lantern containing a number of lights, displaying sundry emblematical words thereon, was paraded through the streets.

The stockholders of the Lancaster, Elizabethtown and Middletown turnpike company are admonished to pay up

arreages to finish the road, otherwise "their names will appear in the papers."

James M'Ginnis desires patronage for a public school.

1809, *February*.—The public are invited to attend the opening of the new Presbyterian Church, in Second street, on Sunday and Monday, the 12th and 13th. Several clergymen were expected to be present to install Rev. Mr. Buchanan as pastor thereof; and some attention to music was to be given.

Died, at Fort Hunter, a few miles north of the borough, aged about twenty-five years, Dr. Gates M'Allister, second son of Capt. Archibald M'Allister.

Messrs. Hamilton, Albright and Ehrenfried proposed to establish a German paper, to be called the "Volksfreund," in the borough.

George Fisher, Esq., of Harrisburg, having laid out a new town called Harborton, at the confluence of the Swatara with the Susquehanna, in Dauphin county, proposes to dispose of the lots at \$60 each. The name Harborton was subsequently changed to Portsmouth.

"We learn," says the Oracle, "that the bill for the removal of the seat of government of Pennsylvania to Harrisburg has passed the Senate, and is to be taken up in the lower House this day," (February 25.)

*March 11*.—The same paper says: "The act for removing the seat of government to Harrisburg is postponed in the Senate, and recommended to the early attention of the next Legislature. For postponing, 16; against it, 14.

In the lower House it was agreed not to take up the question of removal this session—yeas, 47; nays, 42.

*March 25*.—At the election for borough officers on the 17th inst., Thomas Elder, Esq., was elected Chief Burgess, and Moses Gilmore, Assistant Burgess.

*April 15.*—At an election held on Wednesday last for Chief Burgess, in place of Thomas Elder, Esq., who declined serving, William Graydon, Esq., was duly elected to that office.

In the account of monies expended by the corporation of the borough of Harrisburg for the current year, appears the following :

“To C. Kunkel, balance due for erecting market houses, . . . . . \$305 75”

Mr. John Gingrich, of Londonderry township, offers to sell the time of a stout, healthy negro boy, aged about fourteen years.

Mr. Jacob Steinman advertises entertainment for man and beast at the “Golden Lion,” in Market street, opposite the Court House.

*April 22.*—The books for subscription to the stock of the company incorporated to erect a “permanent bridge over the Susquehanna at or near Harrisburg,” are advertised to be opened on the 2d of May next, at the public houses of Andrew Berryhill, George Brenizer, Daniel Stine, George Zeiglar and Jacob Fridley, in Harrisburg.

The “Harrisburg Volunteers” are requested to meet at Col. Zeigler’s on Monday next, by order of the Captain, John Irwin.

Andrew Miller, of Paxton, three miles from Harrisburg, offers to sell a mulatto wench who has five years to serve, and has a child five or six months old, which will be sold along.

*May 13.*—The directors of the Philadelphia Bank appointed the following gentlemen directors of the office of discount and deposit established in this borough : Robert Harris, Samuel Laird, Christian Kunkle, George Hoyer, Obed Fahnestock, Jacob Bucher, John Forster, Conrod Bombaugh, of Harrisburg ; Elisha Green, Edward Crouch,



of Middletown; John Carson, of Paxton; Thos. Durcan, James Given, Richard O'Bryan, of Carlisle; and Jacob M. Haldeman, of Allen township, Cumberland county. Robert Harris, President; Moses Musgrave, Cashier.

The Bank commenced discounting on Monday, the 22d, following; and the days of discount were on each Monday afterwards.

The office of the Bank was located in the building which stood until 1854, at the south-west corner of Market Square and Blackberry alley, the site of the present Harrisburg Bank building. It appears to have been the first banking institution in the borough.

*June 8.*—The annual Spring Fair is advertised to be held on Thursday and Friday, the 8th and 9th of June, in Harrisburg. Great accommodations would be provided for pedlars and merchants of all descriptions.

*June 17.*—On Wednesday, while a flat was crossing the river at the ferry three miles below the borough, (loaded with very valuable goods belonging to a merchant in Kentucky,) several horses and sundry persons, it was suddenly overtaken by a very violent gust nearly in the middle of the river, and notwithstanding the utmost exertion of the ferrymen, was in a few moments sunk to the bottom. Fortunately, the wagoner had the precaution to disengage the horses from the wagon a few moments previous to the gale reaching them, by which means both the lives of the men and the horses were saved. The contents of the wagon were lost.

*June 10.*—A grandson of the celebrated William Penn resided in the borough at this period, in the brick house owned at the time by Mr. John Wyeth, now occupied by Mr. John Knepley, situated in Second street, below Mulberry.

*July 1.*—Died, on Tuesday evening last, in Middletown, in the sixty-sixth year of his age, Mr. George Lauman, mason. His death was occasioned by a severe kick of a horse.

*July 8.*—The anniversary of American independence was celebrated in a conspicuous manner by the Harrisburg Volunteer Light Infantry, and a number of other citizens of the borough. The Infantry, under the command of Ensign John Brooks, proceeded from Front street to the upper ferry, where they were received into a commodious flat, and safely transported to William Maclay's island, opposite the town, at which place, by previous arrangement, a delicious repast was prepared. Dr. James M'Ginnis was chosen President, and Dr. Samuel Agnew Vice President. The company then took their seats and dined sumptuously; after which a number of patriotic toasts were drank, each accompanied by a regular volley of musketry.

A number of the citizens of the borough also celebrated the day on "Laurel Hill," near town. Dr John Luther presided, assisted by John Downey, Esq.

*October 14.*—At an election held at George Zeigler's, inn-keeper, on Thursday last, for officers of the Harrisburg Light Infantry, John Forster was elected Captain, James M'Ginnis, Lieutenant, and Charles Still, Ensign.

The Harrisburg volunteers are notified to meet at Col. Zeigler's on Monday, the 16th, by order of the Captain. Henry Peffer, Sergeant.

*October 21.*—"An act relative to a nightly watch.—Whereas, the President and Directors of the Philadelphia Bank, for the better protection and greater safety of the branch bank in the borough of Harrisburg, have appointed a watchman: and whereas, a number of the inhabitants of the said borough have contributed (with the approbation

of the officers of said bank) an additional salary, for the purpose of compensating the said watchman to patrol a certain portion of the said borough at certain hours of the night; therefore, in order to carry into effect the intention of so useful a regulation, be it ordained," &c. [The section invests the said watchman with all the authority of constables to arrest disorderly and suspicious persons.]

The "persons who wish to encourage a singing school in the borough are requested to meet at Mr. John Norton's."

The Middletown races are advertised to commence on Wednesday, the 22d, on which day a subscription purse of \$60 will be run for three mile heats.

The Directors of the Poor advertise that the Poor House mill, with the appurtenances, will be rented on Thursday, the 7th of December.

John Shoch advertises entertainment for man and beast at the sign of the "Wheat Sheaff," corner of Market and Front streets, in the borough.

*December 16.*—Drs. Samuel Agnew and John Cleaveland commence a spirited controversy in the "Oracle" upon their respective professional merits.

*December 23.*—The Commissioners of the county advertise the ferry at Harrisburg for rent.

1810, *January 12.*—Mr. Colome, dancing master, Professor of the Academy at Paris and Madrid, gives notice that he will open a dancing academy at the public house of Col. George Zeigler, in the borough, on the 1st of March.

*February 17.*—The editor of the "Oracle" says "we cordially congratulate our fellow-citizens of Harrisburg on the pleasing prospect of its shortly becoming the permanent seat of government for the great and respectable State of Pennsylvania. The following bill passed the House of

Representatives of this State on Monday last, by a large majority, and in the Senate on Wednesday last, by a majority of *one vote*; and nothing but the signature of the Governor is required to make it a law, of which not a doubt remains." [Here follows the act of Assembly establishing the seat of government at Harrisburg, which will be found under the head of "Removal of the Seat of Government."]

*March 3.*—Accounts are given of experiments made at Washington city with certain torpedoes and harpoons invented by one Robert Fulton, for war purposes. The editor admits that the machinery of the instruments were ingenious, but places little confidence in their utility, and seems disposed to be facetious over their failure. [A few years previous, this same Robert Fulton had proved the practicability of navigating the North River, New York, with a steamboat of his own invention ]

*March 10.*—In the proceedings of the Senate of February 21, appears the following :

*"To the Senate and House of Representatives:—*Gentlemen : I have this day approved and signed the following act of the General Assembly, and directed the Secretary to return the same to the House in which it originated :  
' An act establishing the seat of government of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin ' "

*March 24* —At an election held on Friday, the 16th inst., for borough officers. Joshua Elder was elected Chief Burgess, and John Wyeth Assistant Burgess. Messrs Robert Harris, George Zeigler, John Shoch, Christian Kunkle, Peter Keller, Jacob Boas, John C'app, John Irwin and Moses Gillmore were elected Councilmen.

*March 31* —Mrs. Smith, (late from Northumberland,) gives notice that she will open a school on Monday, the 2d of

April, "at the house of Mr. Dubbs, next door to Mr. Stine's tavern."

Chambers' Ferry, three miles below Harrisburg, is offered for rent.

*April 7.*—Adam Rupley advertises accommodation for man and beast "at the sign of the Bell," in the house formerly occupied by Simon Snyder, and latterly by Herman Frederick as a tavern, a few doors below Mr Harris' stone mansion, in Front street.

*April 21.*—A large vein of beautiful colored marble of superior fineness was recently opened near the borough; and another of a very fine white has likewise just been discovered on the plantation of Mr. Neidig, near the County Poor House. [Is this quarry exhausted?—*Com.*]

*May 5.*—Died, on Wednesday afternoon, in this borough, in the forty-third year of her age, of pulmonary consumption, Mrs. Polly Cox, consort of the late Cornelius Cox, of Coxestown. This lady was distinguished for her engaging deportment through life. Her remains were deposited in the family graveyard at Coxestown.

*June 16.*—Died, on the 12th inst., in this borough, of pulmonary consumption, Mrs. Catherine Elder, consort of Thomas Elder, Esq., and daughter of the late Cornelius Cox, of Coxestown.

*June 2.*—The "Oracle" contains the following advertisement taken from a Baltimore paper. We give it a place as a curiosity:

"*Riflemen attention!*—A man to be shot for the benefit of his wife and children—\$1 a shot, one hundred yards distance, with rifles—on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Govanstown, at 3, P. M. The above mentioned man is in a very low state of health, and wishes to leave his family snug."

*July 7.*—The thirty-fourth anniversary of American indepen-

dence was celebrated by the citizens of the borough with the usual demonstrations of joy and patriotism. The morning was hailed by seventeen volleys from Captain Boas' company of Infantry; and about ten o'clock one hundred and fifty citizens, preceded by Capt. Boas' company and martial and other music, walked in procession to an agreeable rural spot near the borough, where Moses Gillmore, Esq., was chosen President, and Jacob Bucher, Esq., Vice President of the day. The Declaration of Independence was read by the Vice President, and patriotic toasts drank.

The "Harrisburg Volunteers," commanded by Capt. John Irwin, met at an early hour at Col. George Zeigler's, from whence they retired to Maclay's Island, accompanied by Col. George Zeigler and Major Umberger, for the purpose of celebrating the day. The usual number of toasts were drank, each accompanied by a volley of musketry.

On Thursday, the 5th inst., about thirty young ladies of the borough, desirous of emulating the other sex in their 4th of July hilarities, marched to a beautiful spring near the town, and after an agreeable repast, spent the day in gay and cheerful conversation. During the entertainment they drank a number of patriotic toasts, "accompanied with animating cheers."

*August 11.*—Previous to the erection of the public sewers in Market and Second streets, the Square, or at least the greatest part thereof, was usually flooded with water after a heavy rain, which sometimes would remain there for a considerable period. In alluding to this circumstance, the Lancaster Journal, under the head of "Inland Navigation," intimates a design on the part of the citizens of Harrisburg to adopt the Venitian style of visiting in gondolas!

1811, *January* 19.—The Hon. John Joseph Henry, President of the Courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the district composed of the counties of Lancaster, York and Dauphin, resigned his office.

*January* 26.—*Appointment by the Governor.*—Walter Franklin, late Attorney General of the State, to be President of the Courts in the counties of York, Lancaster and Dauphin, in the room of John J. Henry, Esq., resigned.

*February* 2.—Departed this life on Monday morning last, after a short but severe illness, Dr. John Luther, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, for many years a useful, humane, and fortunate practitioner in the science of physic and surgery in the borough.

*March* 23.—The bill to appropriate \$30,000 to complete the public offices at Harrisburg passed both houses of the Legislature, and only awaits the signature of the Governor to become a law.

*April* 6.—On Tuesday last the Legislature of this Commonwealth adjourned *sine die*. Among the most important acts it has passed was one appropriating \$90,000 towards building a bridge across the Susquehanna river at Harrisburg.

*April* 13.—On Sunday afternoon last, as two brothers and a sister, by the name of Hahn, belonging to Cumberland county, were attempting to cross the Susquehanna, near the borough, in a canoe, the youngest lad, aged about fifteen years, by some sudden jolt of the canoe, fell overboard, when the sister, about two years younger, with the view probably to save her struggling brother, was likewise precipitated into the river, and both were drowned before any assistance could be offered them.

*April* 20.—Mr. John Wyeth, Editor and Bookseller, advertises a Circulating Library, charging each reader six

cents per volume for perusing duodecimos, and ten cents for octavos.

An ordinance was passed by the Town Council authorizing the town regulator to contract with some person for the erection of a sewer, "to carry off such redundant water as may from time to time collect in Market square."

*April 27.*—Died at Lancaster, after many years afflicting illness, John Joseph Henry. [The deceased was the first President Judge of the courts in Dauphin county after the adoption of the new Constitution of Pennsylvania, in 1790, the judicial district then being composed of the counties of Dauphin, York and Lancaster. In the year 1775, Mr. Henry, then a young man, joined the American army at Boston, as a volunteer cadet, and at the close of that year he marched with the first Pennsylvania regiment on the expedition to Canada, a campaign distinguished in the history of the war for the gallantry and sufferings of the army. Of these sufferings Mr. Henry bore more than a common share, for he was among the first of seven (one of which was the notorious Aaron Burr) who volunteered to go in advance and explore a route for the army through the wilderness, for nearly 300 miles, a service of great fatigue and danger. During that time, as well as before Quebec, young Henry acquired, by his bravery and good conduct, the approbation of his officers, who gave very honorable testimonials of his gallantry. At the storming of Quebec, under General Montgomery, he shared the fate of his brave but unfortunate countrymen, and was taken prisoner. While in that situation, having concerted a plan of escape with some of his associates, in order to rejoin the American army, he was closely confined in irons for many months, in which position he contracted a serbutic complaint, which prevented his re-entering the



army on being released, and which, after impairing his health, reduced him to a state of great disease and decrepitude, and rendered him prematurely old.—*From the report of a committee made to the Legislature in January, 1811.*]

*May 4.*—Died, on Saturday last, at New Market Forge, in this county, Mr. John Elder, Sr., aged about fifty-four years. His remains were interred in Paxton burial ground, near the borough.

*May 25.*—The “Yearly Market” at Middletown, Dauphin county, is advertised to commence on the 11th of June, at which time and place a great number of valuable horses, cows, sheep, lambs, calves, and hogs, with many articles suitable to the taste of the season, such as pickled oysters, roast beef, punch and wine, will be offered for sale. The market to be enlivened with all kinds of music.

*June 22.*—An unfortunate occurrence took place on Monday last at the public buildings in this place. While a number of the hands were employed fixing a large stone about the cornice, a cross piece of timber which supported the scaffold broke, which occasioned part of the scaffolding to give way, and precipitated four of the workmen to the earth. A Mr. Jesse Gohagan, who probably had hold of the stone at the moment, fell under it, which mashed the entire upper part of his head, and killed him instantly. Two or three others had some of their limbs broken. The deceased resided within four miles of Baltimore.

*June 29.*—The Trustees of the Harrisburg Academy advertise for a teacher.

*July 13.*—The “Harrisburg Volunteers” celebrated the anniversary of American independence by a public dinner on Maclay’s Island. Samuel Agnew, Esq., officiated as

President, and Mr. John Fager as Vice President, on the occasion. Appropriate toasts were drank, accompanied with discharges of musketry.

#### REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT TO HARRISBURG.

The first indication of a realization of the prophecy of John Harris that the town he had laid out on the banks of the Susquehanna would become the future seat of government of Pennsylvania, occurred in the winter of 1808-9.

In the State Senate, on the 4th of January of the latter year, Mr. Laird presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Northumberland, in Northumberland county, stating the central situation of that place, and showing the advantages of fixing the State government there, offering accommodations for the officers of the State and members of the Legislature, and praying a removal of the seat of government thither.

The petition was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Laird, Heston, Doty, Hiester and Laycock.

On the same day, the following preamble and resolution was presented to the Senate, and also referred to the same committee:

*“Whereas, The books, records and documents belonging to the different departments of the government of this Commonwealth, particularly those of the Land Office, are in want of suitable buildings for their safe keeping, greatly exposed to dangerous accidents by fire and otherwise—for a remedy whereof,*

*Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report a bill to fix the permanent seat of government at ———, in the county of ———, and provide for erecting thereat suitable buildings for the accommodation of the Legislature, and the several offices attached thereto, before the first Tuesday in December, 18—.”*

The committee to whom the subject was referred shortly after

submitted a report recommending the removal of the seat of government to the town of Northumberland, in the county of Northumberland. The Senate, however, when considering the report, struck out the words "Northumberland, in the county of Northumberland."

*February 17, 1809.*—In Committee of the Whole, in the Senate, Mr. Sommer moved to fill the blank with the words "city of Philadelphia."

Mr. Sommer said he was as far removed from being influenced by any local interest as any member of the Senate. He wished to fix the seat of government permanently where it would most conduce to the interest of the people, and he believed Philadelphia to be that place. Wherever the seat of government is, to that place trade will in some measure be directed; and it is the interest of the State to secure the trade to her metropolis.

Mr. Dorsey said there were already buildings in Philadelphia sufficient for all the officers of government and for the Legislature. This was not the case elsewhere. If they removed to any other place, much expense would be incurred in the erection of these buildings. He had many other reasons for voting for Philadelphia; but, under a belief that the seat of government would not be fixed there, he would not take up the time of the Senate in mentioning them. Any other place than Lancaster, however, would be cordially voted for by him. He would vote even for Pittsburg.

The motion to fill the blank with the word "Philadelphia" was lost—only eight yeas voting in favor of the same.

Mr. Laird moved to fill the blank with the words "town of Northumberland, in the county of Northumberland."

Mr. Burrows said: This question was of the first importance to Pennsylvania; it was important to the State to concentrate her whole interest in fixing the permanent seat of government. And how is this to be done but by fixing upon as central a place as can be found. He confessed that, for this purpose, Harris-

burg was next to Northumberland ; but then Harrisburg was but twenty miles from the southern boundary of the State, and Northumberland was eighty. And (said Mr. B.) are we to fix it at Harrisburg, and make the people come over the mountains with knapsacks on their backs, only that the rich at this end of the State may have an opportunity of riding to the seat of government in their coaches.

Mr. Irish observed that he had lately examined all the situations from the mountains above Harrisburg down to Columbia, and he thought the most suitable situation was near to Middletown. That place, he said, was best to divert the trade to Philadelphia ; a canal was contemplated which would afford water carriage for produce to the city of Philadelphia from Middletown. The situation at Harrisburg was very pleasant and handsome, but it was not so eligible for the purpose of intercepting the trade and preventing its going to Baltimore. He thought a committee should be appointed to examine the situations on the Susquehanna, and make report to the next Legislature.

The question was then taken on filling the blank with the words "the town of Northumberland, in the county of Northumberland," and lost—seven only rising in favor of it.

Mr. Lane then moved to fill the blank with the words "borough of Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin;" which was agreed to—14 to 10.

The resolution attached to the report was adopted ; when the committee rose, and the Speaker took the chair.

The Senate proceeded to consider the report.

Mr. Weaver moved to postpone the report for the purpose of introducing a substitute, which contemplated a purchase by the State of one hundred and fifty acres of land, the property of Abraham Huey, a short distance above Harrisburg.

This (with the motion to postpone) was opposed by Burrows and Dorsey, on the ground that this land was to be purchased for the purpose of speculation, and that it was disgraceful for

the Legislature to enter into it. Neither, they said, did this tract of land adjoin Harrisburg.

The report was postponed, and the substitute introduced.

Mr. Sommer moved to strike out that part of the substitute which authorized the purchase by the State of one hundred and fifty acres of land from Abraham Huey. Carried—yeas 13, nays 9.

The part appropriating money for the erection of public buildings, &c., was also stricken out.

Mr. Roberts moved that the blank in the resolution attached to the substituted report be filled up with the words “first of November,” which was agreed to; and the substitute as amended was carried.

Subsequent to this action, a bill for the removal of the seat of government to Harrisburg was prepared and considered in the Senate, and postponed until the next session. The House of Representatives refused to take up the bill during that session.

No further action on the subject appears to have been had in the Legislature until February, 1810, when a bill, of which the following is a synopsis, passed both branches of the Legislature, and became a law :

*“An act establishing the seat of government of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin.*

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted, &c.,* That within the month of October, 1812, all the offices attached to the seat of government of this State shall be removed to the borough of Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin, by their respective holders, and shall after that period cease to be exercised elsewhere; at which said borough of Harrisburg the session of the Legislature thereafter, as well as all future sessions, shall be held; and the said borough of Harrisburg is hereby fixed and declared to be the seat of government of the said Commonwealth.

SECT. 2.—[Directs the Secretary of the Commonwealth, State Treasurer, Auditor General, Secretary of the Land Office, and Surveyor General, the clerks of both Houses of the Legislature, and all officers whose official duties are attached to the seat of government, to remove, or cause to be removed, all books, records, papers, &c., to the said offices respectively, or to the State generally, to the borough of Harrisburg, in the manner provided for in this act.]

SECT. 3. That Robert Harris, George Hoyer and George Zeigler shall be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners, who, together with the respective officers aforesaid, shall superintend and direct the removal of the books, records, papers and other documents aforesaid, and shall provide at the borough of Harrisburg good and suitable rooms and apartments for the convenient accommodation of the Legislature, and also for the receiving, opening and depositing the said books, records, papers and other documents, and for conducting and transacting the business of the offices aforesaid, respectively; and in case of the resignation of any of the aforesaid officers, or of their or any of their neglect and refusal or incapacity to attend to the business of the removal aforesaid, then it shall be and may be lawful for the said commissioners, or a majority of them, to proceed therein as if the said officers were attending.

SECT. 4. That the Governor be, and he is hereby authorized and required, on behalf and in the name of this Commonwealth, to accept of the offer of ten acres of land in or adjoining the said borough of Harrisburg, at one hundred dollars per acre, made by William Maclay, adjoining to the four acre lot formerly appropriated by John Harris, for the use of the State; and to pay for the same and receive sufficient conveyances and assurances in fee simple therefor, to be recorded in the office for recording of deeds in the county of Dauphin aforesaid.

SECT. 5.—[Appropriates \$3,000 for the purpose of making the aforesaid purchase and discharging the expense of removal,

to be paid in advance—\$2,000 to the said commissioners, and \$1,000 for the said purchase.]

SECT. 6—[Appropriates the further sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of erecting the offices at the seat of government, to wit: one for the Secretary of the Commonwealth, one for the Secretary of the Land Office, one for the Surveyor General, one for the Auditor General, one for the Treasurer, and one for any purpose to which it may hereafter be applied, each of which shall be fire-proof, for the safe keeping of all the records and papers belonging to said offices.]

SECT. 7. That the Governor is hereby authorized and required immediately after the passage of this act, to appoint, and by supplying vacancies happening from refusals to act or other causes, to keep in appointment as long as may be necessary, three commissioners, whose duty it shall be, immediately after their appointment, to fix upon a site in or on the four acre lot described in the fourth section of this act, or on the ten acre lot purchased from William Maclay, and procure one or more plan or plans on which the said offices are to be built, and after a place shall be agreed on, according to the provisions which hereafter follow, it shall be their duty to contract for, direct and superintend the building and completing of the said offices. And it shall also be the duty of the said commissioners, as soon as they shall have ascertained the site for the said offices and procured one or more plans, to lay the said plan or plans before the Governor, Secretary of the Land Office, Surveyor General, Auditor General, and the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, who, together with the three commissioners aforesaid, shall each have one vote in order to decide on a plan for the offices aforesaid; and such plan as shall have a majority of the votes aforesaid, shall, by the commissioners aforesaid, be carried into execution.

SECT. 8—[Directs that as soon as the plan shall be decided on, the commissioners shall give notice in two newspapers of Philadelphia, Lancaster, York, Carlisle, Harrisburg, Pittsburg,

and Reading, for four weeks successively, that proposals will be received by them until a certain day, by them to be fixed, from any person or persons who shall be willing to undertake the building of the offices aforesaid: *Provided*, that every contract shall be made in writing, and that the parties contracting with the said commissioners give bonds with sufficient surety for the performance of their contracts.]

SECT. 9—[Provides that the money appropriated for this purpose shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, on the order of any two of the said commissioners, who are required to keep strict accounts of their transactions, and to transmit an abstract thereof to the Governor once in every three months after their appointment.]

SECT. 10—[Provides that the aforesaid commissioners, before entering upon the duties of their appointment, shall subscribe to an oath or affirmation that they will faithfully perform the duties enjoined upon them by this act; and that each of the said commissioners shall receive for every day's attendance upon the duties herein enjoined upon them, the sum of two dollars and fifty cents, and that any two of them may do and perform any act or duty herein enjoined on the said commissioners.]

The commissioners on the part of the State, named in the third section of the above act, in their negotiations with Wm. Maclay for the purchase of the ten acres upon which the Capitol now stands, wished to have it adjoin the four acres and thirteen perches granted by John Harris, but as the grant of Harris was separated from the Maclay property by a range of five lots, extending from High street to Third street, originally the property of the heirs of Harris, viz: of David Harris, Mrs. Maclay, Mrs. Hanna, James Harris, and Robert Harris, Mr. Maclay could not convey the title without first purchasing these lots from the then owners, which he did, and then conveyed the ten acres, as described in the deed from him to the Commonwealth. This deed, however, did not convey all the ground now enclosed



as the public ground. In order to obtain it, the State, by virtue of an act of the Legislature, purchased lots Nos. 271, 272, 273, 274 and 275 in the plan of the borough, from the individual owners, and after enclosing what was necessary to complete or square the grounds, and open High street as it is, sold the residue of said lots, lying between High street and Tanner's alley, and from Cranberry alley to the Maclay line, to the present owners or their vendors.

The commissioners appointed by the Governor, by authority of the 7th section of the above act, were Wm. Findlay, Richard M. Crain, George Bryan, John B. Gibson, and William Graydon, who immediately invited architects to exhibit to them plans and elevations for the contemplated buildings. A premium of \$400 was to be given for the plan adopted by the Board, and \$200 for that which they should adjudge the next best. Stephen Hills, Esq., was declared the successful competitor, his plan contemplating the connection of the main building with the offices by corridors.

A supplement to the foregoing act was passed February 7, 1812, which provided in the first section for the removal of all the offices, within the month of April, to the borough of Harrisburg, the change of all papers, records, books and documents placed with the clerks of the two Houses, and expenses to be paid under the authority of the second section, out of the money already appropriated for that purpose.

The second supplement to the original act was passed the 10th March, 1812, which appropriated, in the first section, \$13,000 to complete the fire proof offices at Harrisburg contemplated in the sixth section of the original act.

In the second section it directed the clerks of the two Houses, on or before the 1st of June next, (1812,) to remove, or cause to be removed, "all the papers, records, books and documents belonging to each House, as aforesaid, together with whatever furniture may be thought fit for removal."

From the above records, it is ascertained that the government of the State was removed, in all its departments, in the year 1812, from Lancaster to Harrisburg, and that the first organization of the latter was in December of that year.

The first sessions of the Legislature in Harrisburg were held in the present Court House building; the Courts, as previously stated, having vacated all the rooms therein excepting those occupied by the Prothonotary and Register, for that purpose. The large room on the second story was occupied by the Senate, and the present court room by the House of Representatives. The State Library was in the room now occupied by the Town Council. The remaining rooms were used by the transcribing clerks and the committees of the Legislature. The circular vestibule in front of the building was erected by the State at this period.

*Recapitulation of Appropriations for Public Offices.*

By act of 21st February, 1810,	. . . . .	\$30,000
“ 28th March, 1811,	. . . . .	30,000
“ 10th March, 1812,	. . . . .	13,000
By resolution of 25th June, 1839,	. . . . .	10,000
“ 21st April, 1840,	. . . . .	2,800

THE STATE CAPITOL—ITS COST.

By “an act to erect the State Capitol, passed the 18th of March, 1816, there was appropriated .	\$50,000
By “a supplement to an act providing for the erection of a State Capitol, approved the 27th of February, 1819, there was appropriated .	70,000
With the provision that said Capitol building should not cost more than . . . . .	\$120,000
By a further supplement, passed the 28th of March, 1820, for the purpose of constructing the columns and capitals thereof of hewn stone, and to cover the roof of the dome, &c., there was appropriated . . . . .	15,000
Whole cost of Capitol, . . . . .	<u>\$185,000</u>

By the fourth section of a supplement to the foregoing act, approved the 27th January, 1819, the sums appropriated were directed to be paid to the builder and architect, as follows :

First payment, . . . . .	\$50,000
Second payment, . . . . .	30,000
Third payment, . . . . .	30,000
Fourth payment, . . . . .	10,000
	<hr/>
Making . . . . .	\$120,000
	<hr/> <hr/>

The fourth payment of \$10,000 by act of Assembly hereafter recited, was divided into two parts, for what reason is not stated ; the first of \$3,000, and the last of \$7,000.

The entire cost of the public buildings and grounds, up to January, 1819, as near as can be ascertained, was as follows :

Cost of Executive offices north west and south-east of Cap-itol building, . . . . .	\$98,000
Cost of Capitol, . . . . .	135,000
Cost of Arsenal, . . . . .	12,000
Public grounds, its enclosure and embellishment, . . . . .	35,000
	<hr/>
Total, . . . . .	\$275,000
	<hr/> <hr/>

#### LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF THE CAPITOL.

The corner-stone of the Capitol was laid at twelve o'clock on Monday, the 31st of May, 1819, by Gov. Findlay, Stephen Hills, architect and contractor for the execution of the work ; William Smith, stone-cutter ; and Valentino Kergan and Samuel White, masons, in presence of the commissioners, and a large concourse of citizens of Harrisburg ; and was followed by three discharges from one of the public cannon

The Harrisburg band of music attended, and added much to the interest and satisfaction which all seemed to feel and enjoy ; and after the ceremonies of the occasion had been concluded, the commissioners, architect, stone-cutters, masons, carpenters

and workmen, with a number of citizens, partook of a cold collation provided on the public ground by Mr. Rahm.

The commissioners deposited in the stone copies of the following mentioned documents :

Charter of Charles II. to William Penn.

Declaration of Independence.

Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1776.

Articles of confederation and perpetual union between the several States.

Copy of so much of an act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, by which indemnity was made to the heirs of William Penn for their interest in Pennsylvania.

Treaty of peace and acknowledgment by Great Britain of the independence of the United States.

Constitution of the United States, 1787.

Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1790.

Acts of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, by which the seat of government was removed from Philadelphia to Lancaster and Harrisburg, and the building of a State Capitol at the latter place authorized.

A list of the names of the commissioners, architects, stone-cutter and chief masons; likewise a list of the then officers of the government of Pennsylvania, embracing the Speakers of the two Houses of the Legislature, the Governor, the Heads of Department, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and Attorney General, with the names of the President and Vice President of the United States.

It was a singular oversight of the commissioners or architect to omit distinguishing this stone by some appropriate mark or inscription. Out of *twelve* of our old citizens who witnessed the ceremony, the compiler could find but one (Mr. George Eicholtz) who was able to inform him positively at which corner of the building the stone is situated. This gentleman states that

it is at the south-western corner ; and further, that "when Gov. Findlay went through the form of laying it, he accidentally broke the mallet, which was considered by the assemblage of people as a bad omen."

#### FURNISHING STATE CAPITOL.

An act providing for the furnishing of the State Capitol, and for other purposes therein mentioned, was passed March 30, 1821.

Section 1. The Governor, Auditor General, State Treasurer, William Graydon, Jacob Bucher, Francis R. Shunk, and Joseph A. M'Ginsey appointed commissioners to superintend the furnishing the State Capitol.

Section 2. Commissioners to contract in manner provided, for providing furniture for the Executive, enumerating the articles.

Sections 3, 4 and 5 provide in like manner for furnishing furniture, closets, &c., for chambers of the Senate and House, and for the joint library and committee rooms, together with a six-faced clock, four of which shall be outside the dome, one to be fixed in a suitable place in the Senate Chamber, and the other in the Hall of the House of Representatives.

Section 6 provides for building out-houses, levelling public grounds, paving, and authorizing the putting the telescope in the Library in complete order.

Section 7. The sum of \$15,000 appropriated, to be drawn on the warrant of the Governor to meet the foregoing provisions.

#### DEEDS FOR PUBLIC GROUND, WITH THEIR DATES.

Cost \$490, from John Fleck and wife to Commonwealth, for lots Nos. 271 and 272, August 27, 1828.

Cost \$200, from Ebenezer Ward and wife to Commonwealth, for lot No. 273, July 16, 1828.

Cost \$200, from Joseph Black to Commonwealth, for lot No. 274, August 7, 1828.

Cost \$300, from John Trimble and wife to Commonwealth, for lot No. 275, August 4, 1828.

The foregoing lots had for their boundaries High street, South street, Farmers' lane and Cranberry alley, authority for the purchase of which was given by act of Assembly, passed April 14, 1828.

The above lots, it appears by reference to acknowledgments of purchase moneys, cost the Commonwealth \$1100, which, after cutting off such parts as were needed for public use, sold for \$412.

#### SALE OF PART OF THE ABOVE LOTS.

The third section of an act to provide for additional clerk hire, &c., passed the 22d day of April, 1829, provides that the commissioners appointed to superintend the improvements of the public grounds attached to the State Capitol, or a majority of them, are authorized to sell such parts of five lots of ground adjoining each other, lying east of High street, in Harrisburg, which was purchased by them in pursuance of the provisions of an act passed April 14, 1828, as they may deem necessary for the extension and improvement of the said public grounds, and to execute a deed or deeds conveying an estate in fee simple therefor to the purchaser or purchasers thereof; and the money arising from such sale shall be added to the fund already appropriated by law for the improvement of the said public ground, under the direction of the said commissioners.

The record of the sale of the lots is found in the accounting department of the State, as follows :

July 10, 1829, from James Trimble, two lots,	.	.	.	\$289	00
July 13, 1829, from Henry Buehler, one lot,	.	.	.	58	00
July 13, 1829, from Mr. Carson, . . . . .	.	.	.	115	00
Total, . . . . .	.	.	.	\$412	00

## REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS,

Dated Harrisburg, November 27, 1827, and signed by J. D. Barnard, Secretary of the Commonwealth; David Mann, Auditor General; William Clark, State Treasurer; united in by C. Blythe, Secretary of Commonwealth; Alex. Mahon, State Treasurer:

*January 11, 1828.*—(See Journal of the House of Representatives, 1827–8, page 675.) The report is full and complete, evidences the ragged and uneven surface of the grounds, the marshy character of State street, the excavations necessary in front of the Arsenal, and recommends that the grounds be surrounded with an iron palisade or railing, on a low stone wall, containing the necessary number of entrances or gates, with the planting of trees in proper places.

From the fact that they ask for an appropriation of \$187 25 to cover deficiencies, the sum of \$5,000 specially appropriated by act of 16th of April, 1816, appears to have been overrun. An accompanying statement of expenditures show work to have been done amounting to \$5,187 25.

## THE HARRISBURG ACADEMY.

The Harrisburg Academy, to which the State had become a patron as early as the year 1809, the Legislature having passed an act on the 4th of April of that year appropriating the sum of \$1,000 "to enable these trustees to purchase a lot of ground whereupon to erect a suitable building," having for a number of years owned under title from the State a part of the now public grounds, is necessarily connected with their history.

*"An act for the aid of the Harrisburg Academy.*

**"SECT. 1.** *Be it enacted, &c.,* That there is hereby granted to the Trustees of the Harrisburg Academy, and to their suc-

cessors, forever, the following described part of the public grounds in the borough of Harrisburg, to wit: Beginning at the corner of High and Walnut streets, thence up High street eighty-five feet six inches; thence south forty-five degrees west one hundred and sixty-three feet four inches; thence by a straight line to a point one hundred and fifty-eight feet four inches from the place of beginning, and thence in a straight line to the place of beginning, containing fifty-six perches and eight-tenths, for the purpose of erecting thereon a building for an Academy, and for no other purposes whatsoever.

Approved March 8, 1814."

The foregoing donation was a clear violation of the purpose of John Harris and wife, as expressed in their deed of conveyance to the Commonwealth, although within a liberal construction of its language.

The Legislature, however, finding that they had committed an error in this generous donation, and that the intended improvements would be obstructed by it, passed a resolution on the 11th of April, 1825, authorizing and requiring the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the State Treasurer to purchase of the Trustees of the Harrisburg Academy, for the use of the Commonwealth, the lot of ground adjoining the Arsenal, granted to the Trustees of the said Academy by the act of March 8, 1814, for a price not exceeding \$500. The purpose of this resolution was consummated March 28, 1831, when the sum of \$500 was paid to the Trustees of the Academy.

#### PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS TO THE RIVER.

A resolution was passed by the Legislature, April 11, 1825, authorizing the Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Treasurer to purchase the several lots in front of the State Capitol, lying between North street and South street, and Third



street and the river, being the then village of Maclaysburg, but the purchase was subsequently abandoned in consequence of the high prices at which the said lots were sold, and the difficulty of obtaining the will of all the owners required by the act to sell.

The price asked for the lots as reported by viewers, headed by Archibald M'Allister, was \$24,400.

#### FIRST OCCUPANCY OF THE STATE CAPITOL.

We conclude our sketch of the public buildings and grounds by a description of the ceremonies observed at the inauguration of the State Capitol.

The following extract from the House Journal, December 21, 1821, indicates that the session had been opened at the usual place in Harrisburg (Court-House) in that year, for the last time :

*"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That when the Legislature meets at the new State Capitol, on Wednesday, the 2d of January next, that it is highly proper, before either House proceeds to business, they unite in prayer to Almighty God, imploring His blessing on their future deliberations, and that the joint committee already appointed be authorized to make the necessary arrangements for that purpose."*

*"Wednesday, January 2, 1822.—On motion of Mr. Lehman and Mr. Todd, the House proceeded to the building lately occupied by the Legislature, and joined the procession to the Capitol, and attended to the solemnities directed by the resolution of the 21st ultimo, relative to the ceremonies to be observed by the Legislature upon taking possession of the State Capitol "*

On Thursday, the 3d of January, a motion was made by Mr. Casat and Mr. Wierman, which read as follows :

*"Resolved, That the committee of arrangements be requested to procure a copy of the introductory prayer and address deliv-*

ered on the 2d instant in the State Capitol, previous to the commencement of public business, and that the usual number of copies of each be printed."

The following account of the ceremonies attendant on the removal of the Legislature to the new buildings, is taken from the "Harrisburg Chronicle" of January 3, 1822 :

"The members of both branches of the Legislature met in the morning at 10 o'clock, at the old State House, (Court House,) from whence they moved to the Capitol in the following

*Order of Procession.*

The Architect and his Workmen, two and two.

Clergy.

Governor and Heads of Departments.

Officers of the Senate.

Speaker of the Senate.

Members of the Senate, two and two.

Officers of the House of Representatives.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Members, two and two.

Judges.

Civil authorities of Harrisburg.

Citizens.

In front of the Capitol, the architect and his workmen opened into two lines, and admitted the procession to pass between them and the Capitol.

The ceremony of "uniting in prayer to Almighty God, imploring his blessing on their deliberations," required by a concurrent resolution of the two Houses, took place in the presence of a large assemblage of the inhabitants of this borough and county, and strangers.

*Conclusion of the Prayer.*

The service was opened by a pertinent and impressive prayer,

by Rev. Dr. Lochman, of Harrisburg, which concluded as follows :

“And O, thou great and good and benevolent Father of the human family, grant that whenever the members of the Legislature enter into their respective Chambers to attend to the duties assigned to them, they may always consider that the welfare of thousands may depend upon their deliberations, and that they are accountable beings, who will once have to give an account of their stewardship to the just and impartial sovereign of the universe. These are the petitions which we, on this solemn occasion, bring before thee, the Most High, the God of Heaven and of earth. Oh ! hear them for our Saviour’s sake, to whom, with Thee, the Father and the Spirit, we would ascribe glory and honor forever. Amen.”

*The Discourse.*

The prayer was followed by an appropriate discourse, by Rev. D. Mason, Principal of Dickinson College, which concluded as follows :

“Sixty years have not elapsed since the sound of the first axe was heard in the woods of Harrisburg. The wild beasts and wilder men occupied the banks of the Susquehanna. Since that time, with the mildness which has characterized the descendants of William Penn, and that industry which has marked all the generations of Pennsylvania, the forests have been subdued, the wild beasts driven away to parts more congenial to their nature, and the wilder men have withdrawn to regions where they hunt the deer and entrap the fish according to the mode practiced by their ancestors. In the room of all these there has started up, in the course of a few years, a town respectable for the number of its inhabitants, for its progressive industry, for the seat of legislation in this powerful State. What remains to be accomplished of all our temporal wishes ? What more have we to say ? What more can be said, but go on and

prosper, carry the spirit of your improvements through till the sound of the hammer, the whip of the wagoner, the busy hum of man, the voices of innumerable children issuing from the places of instruction, the lofty spires of worship, till richly endowed colleges of education, till all those arts which embellish man shall gladden the banks of the Susquehanna and the Delaware, and exact from admiring strangers that cheerful and grateful tribute, 'this is the work of a Pennsylvania Legislature!'"

#### ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT FROM PHILADELPHIA TO CARLISLE.

It may be curious to know that in 1795 an attempt was made to remove the seat of government of Pennsylvania from Philadelphia to Carlisle. A bill to this effect actually passed the House of Representatives, but was defeated in the Senate. We append the following extract from the Journal of the House, in reference to this matter :

*"Saturday, March 28.*—The bill entitled 'An act to establish the permanent seat of government of Pennsylvania,' as amended in Committee of the Whole, was read the second time.

And the first section of the said bill being under consideration, viz :

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted, &c.,* That the permanent seat of government of Pennsylvania shall, from and after the 1st day of December, 1798, be established in the county of Cumberland, and within the borough of Carlisle, at such place therein as shall be chosen for that purpose by Samuel Postlewaithe, John Montgomery, and William Henderson, who are hereby appointed commissioners for the purposes in this act mentioned.

On the question, 'Will the House agree to the same?' it was agreed to—yeas 64, nays 6.

The fifth section of the said bill being under consideration,  
vis :

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted, &c.*, That prior to the 1st day of December, 1798, the whole of the ground and all the buildings in the city of Philadelphia, the property of this State, shall be sold under the direction of the aforesaid commissioners.

Passed—yeas 36, nays 33.

And the said bill having been fully considered by sections, on the question, ‘Shall the bill pass?’ it was agreed to—yeas 36, nays 34. So the bill passed, and was sent to the Senate, which body refused to concur.”

“An act making provision for the removal of the seat of government of this Commonwealth, and the offices attached to the same, from the city of Philadelphia to Wright’s Ferry, on the Susquehanna,” also passed the House of Representatives in March, 1798, but was non-concurred in by the Senate.

#### HARRISBURG DURING THE SECOND WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

The citizens of Harrisburg and its vicinity, in 1812, emulated the patriotic spirit of their ancestors in the French, Indian and Revolutionary wars, by quickly responding to the call of their country, and rallying around the standard of “Free Trade and Sailors’ Rights,” in opposition to British aggression.

#### MUSTER ROLLS OF VOLUNTEERS FROM HARRISBURG AND VICINITY.

We give the muster rolls of the several companies of volunteers from Harrisburg and Dauphin county who rendezvoused at York on this occasion, and from thence were marched to the defence of Baltimore.

Capt. Thomas Walker's company, First Regiment, commanded by Col. Kennedy :

Thomas Walker, Capt.	Daniel Miller,	John Jontz,
Charles Still, Lieut.	Jacob Zollinger,	Samuel Wunder,
C. Gleim, Ensign.	Philip Lawyer,	C. Carson,
*Jno. M. Forster, Serg.	Michael Fields,	James Jackson,
William Allison, "	Robert J. Skinner,	Isaac Maguire,
George Beatty, "	George F. Kœhler,	Samuel Himmelright,
John Frazer, "	John Kunkel,	George Ockerman,
John Fisher, Corporal.	Alex. J. H. Jackson,	Robert Stephenson,
William Bryan, "	A. W. Gleason,	Thomas Minshall,
Richard Adams, "	James Officer,	Robert B. Wilkins,
George Boyer, "	Samuel Henry,	Jacob Steinman,
Jacob Dubbs, drummer.	Charles Durang,	C. Heichel,
Samuel Holman, fifer.	Ferdinand Durang,	P. Martin,
George Stine, "	George Cole,	Frederick Hyneman,
†John Roberts,	G. C. Moyer,	Jacob Winnagle,
John Young,	Joseph Stroman,	Samuel Smith,
Ludwig Bessing,	John E. Williams,	Charles Hinckley,
John H. Kroberger,	Joseph Jackson,	Henry Antes,
Martin Good,	Jacob Kuhn,	W. Fulton,
George J. Heisely,	Austin Ball,	James Montgomery,
M. Rupley,	Henry Wilson,	John Shott,
Jacob Rahm,	Jacob Bauchman,	James Mitchell,
A. Anderson,	Jacob M. Awl,	A. S. Dearmond,
John Sheffy,	Ezekiel Shelcut,	Henry M'Kinney,
John Zearing,	John Sample,	Robert Dickey,
John Deemer,	William Harper,	David Harris,
Jacob Meck,	Joshua Elder,	John A. Stehley,
John Stahl,	William M'Bay,	Isaac Updegrove,
Hugh M'Ilwaine,	Fred. Zimmerman,	Ellis Updegrove,
Jacob Slough,	John L. Wallis,	Abm. Funk,
J. C. Wright,	Plunkett Crabb,	William Cowhick.
M. Wain,		

\* Promoted to Brigade Major.

† Promoted to 1st Sergeant, in place of John M. Forster, Brigade Major.

Capt. R. M. Crain's company, First Regiment, commanded by Col. Kennedy :

R. M. Crain, Captain.	John Shannon,	Robert Graham,
Joel Bailey, 1st Lieut.	Thomas White,	Michael Lebkicher,
G. Caruthers, 2d "	George Myer,	John Search,
Alex. M. Piper, 1 Serg.	Thomas Barnett,	John Conner,
R. T. Jacobs, 2 "	Nicholas Hitzelberger,	Jacob R. Stine,
Jas. R. Boyd, 3 "	Henry Leak,	Samuel Boyer,
Jos. C. Laveille, 4 "	Peter Krum,	Alex. Graydon, Jr.,
Jno. Benjamin, 1 Corp.	Jonathan Heister,	Marcus Vanderslice,
George Taylor, 2 "	Joseph Wallace,	Matthew Ferguson,
Jacob Elder, 3 "	Henry Smith,	John Smith,
John Walborn, 4 "	Luther Reily,	Henry Blake,
D. Krause, drummer.	Henry H. Burr,	Jacob Knepley,
Jacob Pool, fifer.	William George,	John Swoyer,
John Mitchell,	Michael Daugherty,	Jacob Kunkel,
Francis R. Shunk,	Thomas Kurtz,	William Robertson,
John M. Willis,	Thomas S. Mitchell,	Thomas Brown,
Elisha Brotherton,	William S. Findlay,	John Lebo,
John Wilson,	Samuel Shoch,	Charles Kimmel,
Perry C. Nabb,	Nathaniel Ewing,	John Keighler,
John Beisel,	George Gongwher,	Truman Bostwick,
Henry C. Sheirman,	John M. Barnett,	Samuel Capp,
John Keller,	Andrew Vanbuskirk,	John Fleck,
Richard T. Leech,	George Adams,	Jacob Hoyer,
John B. Thompson,	Joseph Youse,	William Newel,
John Rodney,	John Shrier,	William Boyer,
Jacob Gleim,	Samuel Harris,	William Reily,
Wm. M. Carson,	Samuel Wienman,	George Cochran,
George Eicholtz,	James Murphy,	William Barnett.

Capt. John Carother's company, First Regiment, commanded by Col. Kennedy :

John Carothers, Capt.	John Carns, 2 "	John Wingert, 3 "
John Horning, 1 Lieut.	I. Tomlinson, 3 "	Wm. Burton, 4 "
Hen. Crangle, 2 "	J. Emerson, 4 "	Michael Capp,
Thomas Orr, Ensign,	Eras. Hooper, 1 Corp.	Jacob Miller,
John Lyne, 1 Serg.	M'Nair Wilson, 2 "	Michael Machon,

Philip Stimmel,	Jacob Elwell,	Frederick Peek,
Nicholas Stiff,	Henry Morningstaff,	Joseph Keller,
Jacob Kentzel,	Jacob Philiger,	Arthur Moore,
Henry Geistweite,	John Morningstaff,	Benjamin Bevens,
George Sellers,	Wm. Brigle,	Samuel Keller,
William Harrison,	John Hasselbaugh,	Benedict Singer,
Joseph M'Vannen,	James M'Cowen,	Joseph Henry,
George Nagle,	Daniel Housman,	John Brown,
Jacob Kline,	Caleb Musser,	John Martin,
James Floyd,	John Krebb,	Rudolph Mulhollan,
John K. Peacock,	John Neckle,	Daniel M'Cristal,
John Robinson,	Robert Barr,	Jonathan M'Bride,
Norman Callender,	Wm. M'Glaughlin,	Joseph Walhaven.
George Shott,	Patrick Kirk,	

Capt. Jeremiah Rees' company, Fifth Battalion militia, commanded by Lieut. Col. Daniel Lefever :

[This company marched from Berks county to York under the command of Capt. Fisher, who from sickness or some other cause resigned. Capt. Rees was transferred to the company from the one afterwards commanded by Capt. Knight.]

Jeremiah Rees, Capt.	Henry Bardoff,	Samuel Matthew,
Conrad Knepley, Lieut.	John Forry,	Adam Hayne,
James Dill, Ensign.	John Mell,	Jacob Reiggle, Jr.
P. Etchberger, Serg.	Andrew Cernand,	John Katerman,
Daniel Deal, "	Adam Briggles,	Daniel Reedy,
Philip German, "	John Coleman,	Henry Seetz,
Henry Kendall, "	John Strong,	Daniel Kliner,
John Hosler,	Michael Fisher,	Jacob Shingler,
Conrad Spats,	Henry Miller,	Michael Keith,
Anthony Katerman,	George Null,	George Laird,
John Missemann,	Henry Foltz,	Daniel Deckart,
Adam Griss,	Peter Newman,	David Bridegrum,
Samuel Gable,	Joseph Rutter,	Peter Krick,
Peter Shall,	Jacob Null,	Frederick Fisher,
George Lutz,	John Dam,	Jacob Reiggle, Sr.
Michael Troutman,	William Nipple,	Henry Fidler,
John Haun,	Jacob Reed,	John Foust,
Lawrence Solliday,	Jacob Wolf,	John Fryberger,



Samuel Dirgler,	Rudolph Stoner,	John Feag,
John Draffenbach,	Daniel Heipner,	Henry Zimmerman.
Henry Doughbert,	Henry Metz,	

Capt. Thomas M'Ilhenny's company, Second Regiment, commanded by Col. Ritcher :

Thos. M'Ilhenny, Cap.	John Swier,	Henry Blecker,
Thos. Finney, Lieut.	Patrick M'Kinty,	John Wolf,
John Berry, Ensign.	George White,	Daniel Fegan,
Henry Wolver, fifer.	Chistopher Leib,	James Johnston,
John Jamison, Serg.	Frederick Bulman,	Benjamin Mengle,
John Stroock, "	John Tice,	John Miller,
David Fishburn, "	Peter Staufer,	Henry Moyer,
Jacob Ruff, "	John Fortney,	John Young,
Wm. Hamilton, Corp.	Benjamin Noaker,	Henry Cope,
Mich. Speck, "	Jacob Deel,	Frederick Bush,
Jacob Painter, "	Jacob Moyer,	Martin Funk,
Jacob Denius, "	John Harrison,	John Luton,
Sam'l Reaser,	Christian Early,	Jacob Ulrich,
Henry Hetsenhiser,	John Baseford,	Philip Netenoun,
John Basor,	Henry Basor,	Patrick M'Kinney,
Michael Moyer,	Henry Smith,	Jacob Keller,
Jacob Getz,	Daniel Kuntzman,	George Horner,
Peter Spangler,	Samuel Roody,	Frederick Nagle,
Christian Sponhoo,	Warner Olewine,	Henry Dasher,
John Brownwell,	Enoch Riter,	James Beard,
Philip Katerman,	George Robison,	Frederick Plestley,
John Rowland,	John Bright,	John Lance,
Adam Basor,	John Himes,	Frederick Stuky,
George Wittemeyer,	Henry Harvy,	Adam Nigh,
John Switzer,	John Yingst,	Henry Frankford,
John Keyley,	Martin Swigert,	George Pallum.
James M'Laughlin,	John Baylor,	

Capt. Peter Snyder's company, Second Regiment, commanded by Col. Ritcher :

Peter Snyder, Captain.	Jos. Hummel, 1 Serg.	John Leehigh, 4 Serg.
Benj. Bonawit, Lieut.	Christ. Spayd, 2 "	David Manley, 1 Corp.
Robt. Moody, Ensign.	John Snyder, 8 "	Geo. Heathorn, 2 "

Josh. Heppick, 3 Corp.	David Etteler,	Peter Burket,
M. Hargieslager, 4 "	John Conrad,	Godfrey Snyder,
John Waltz, drum maj.	Charles Hughes,	Peter Seiler,
Sol. Hayes, fife maj.	George Jontz,	John Stine, Jr.,
John Bule,	Michael Gross,	George Stine,
Michael Cassel,	Frederick Cassel,	Michael Fritz,
Jacob Brown,	William Curry,	Philip Zarver,
Abraham Eversole,	Daniel Bollinger,	Michael Souser,
Michael Waltz,	George Critzen,	Henry Eckler,
Jacob Hostler,	George Remley,	John Belleman,
Robert Conogom,	William Strouse,	Jonathan Priegle,
John M'Elrath,	Laurantz Alberty,	John Deel,
Peter Hedrick,	Jacob Bollinger,	Henry Ebbert,
John Wolf,	Henry Harrow,	John Lunkinbill,
Jacob Andrew,	John Albright,	Martin Felty,
James Wright,	John Boyer,	Jacob Winter,
David Weirich,	John Smith,	John Nigh,
David Mosey,	John Batdorf,	Michael Kramer,
James Grundon,	Jacob Hite,	Richard Hays,
John Sawyer,	John Shaffer,	Benjamin Zerver,
John Duncan,	David Moyer,	Christ. Karp, fifer.
Frederick Hummel,	George Shaffer,	P. Youngblood, drum.
Michael Hemperly,		

Capt. John B. Morehead's company, First Regiment, com—  
manded by Col. Kennedy :

J. B. Morehead, Capt.	John Cromwell,	John Gilchrist,
Jno. Manley, Lieut.	William Twig,	Andrew Stephen,
David Hebel, Ensign.	Thomas H. Moore,	Joseph Starrett,
Jno. M'Cord, 1 Serg.	Joseph Wheeler,	Andrew Welsh,
Det. Fishburn, 2 "	John Welsh,	Matthew B. Cowden,
Simon Louer, 3 "	William Wilson,	Allen Sturgeon,
Wm. Hamill, 4 "	Benj. Myer,	John Haverstick,
Wm. M'Cord, 1 Corp.	Samuel Pearson,	Joseph Simmons,
F. Drummond, 2 "	John Wallace,	David Espey,
Thos. M'Nair, 3 "	John Pollock,	David Unger,
Thos. Ramsey, 4 "	Jacob Barr,	John F. Brown,
Andrew Frazer,	Edward Shannon,	George Enghst,
Robert Moorhead,	James Cowden,	Thos. M'Kissick,

imonson,	Geo. W. Forster.	Archibald H. Burnet,
nt,	Henry Holtman,	Jacob Enk,
urgeon,	John Cross,	Reuben Collins.

James Todd's company, Second Regiment, commanded  
together :

d, captain.	Peter Enghst,	George Lutz,
l, Lieut.	James Martin,	George Binner,
ter, Ensign.	James Morton,	Daniel Loas,
ig, 1 Serg	Robert Snodgrass,	Jacob Brown,
2 "	Benj. Hoofnagh,	John Yonker,
ght, 3 "	John Wolf,	Benjamin Weiser,
y, 4 "	John Hileman,	John Fauver,
in, 1 Corp.	John Meese,	George Knoll,
ler, 2 "	Jacob Walburn,	Andrew Wanner,
dd, 3 "	Conrad Kyzer,	Peter Goodman,
ston, 4 "	George Shark,	John Walburn,
ger, drum.	George Fomwold,	Conrad Mouray,
nter, fifer.	Dewald Feesick,	Henry Walburn,
ler,	George Painter,	John Secondeorst,
Bryan,	David Welkman,	Henry Kock,
isicker,	John Hedrick,	Christ. Hasinger,
msing,	John Folmer,	Conrad Hoover,
er,	Henry Stoner,	George Pruss,
rt,	George Wolmer,	John Pruss,
er,	Peter Kremer,	John Dibbins,
rling,	Jacob Beck,	George Failor,
ore,	Felix Light,	Adam Shaffer,
il,	John Klick,	George Felty,
nagh,	Jacob Emerick,	John Simon.

Richard Knight's company, First Regiment, commanded  
Kennedy :

Company marched from Harrisburg to York under the command  
Remiah Rees, who at that place was transferred as previously  
apt. Knight marched the company to Baltimore, when from  
he relinquished the command to his first lieutenant, Philip

Richard Knight, Capt.	Jno. Wilson,	Samuel Saul,
Phillip Cline, Lieut.	Michael Strain,	Jacob Wolf,
Geo. Roberts, Ensign.	Samuel Henning,	Samuel Wetsell,
Josh. M'Connell, Serg.	John Rhoads,	Henry Myers,
John Carson, "	Henry Miller,	Joseph Lightner,
Jonathan Balsley, "	Wm. Smith,	Jno. Books,
Mathias Croll, "	George Grey,	Jno. Yenks,
John Johnston, Corp.	Jno. Zimmerman,	Geo. Miller,
Peter Swartz, "	Jacob Shroy,	Wm. Patrick,
H. Rightmyer, "	George Wise,	Jno. Ealey,
R. Updegrove, "	Samson Hains,	Jacob Fisler,
Geo. Hammon,	Peter Mooney,	Martin Lease,
Abram Saul,	Abraham Swartz,	Jacob Baker,
Wm. Onks,	Jno. B. Lawsen,	Hugh Wade,
David Weaver,	Henry Miller,	Wm. Mileisen,
Andrew Hamen,	Jacob Cassel,	Peter Real,
Michael J. Senheda,	Samuel M'Intire,	Peter B. Lansen,
Wm. Orth,	Jas. Killhoon,	George Myers,
Andrew Herrof,	Wm. Killhoon,	Wm. Miller,
Ludwick Bretz,	Daniel Shell,	Christian Capp,
Jno. Garverich,	George Urich,	James Duncan,
Philip Gaul,	Daniel Bowman,	Wm. Duncan,

Capt. John Elder's company, First Regiment, commanded by —  
Col. Kennedy :

John Elder, Captain.	Adam Reed,	John Stoler,
William Reed, Lieut.	Jacob Stall,	Daniel Umpehouer,
H. W. Conrad, Ensign.	Jacob Stengle,	Abraham Bates,
Jacob Stouch, Serg.	John Brown,	Martin Walborn,
Daniel Hess, "	John Stub,	Henry Deater,
Jacob Walborn, "	Daniel Schoch,	Peter Dinger,
George Shive, "	Christian Neyswinder,	Benj. Bartow,
John Regel, Corporal.	Henry Gebhard,	John Snyder,
George Christ, "	John Aman,	John Hide,
John Miller, "	John West,	Valentine Banney,
Henry Reinoehl, "	Abraham Shaffer,	Peter Weaver,
Conrad Shrefler,	Philip Whitman,	Michael Miller, Sr.,
George Wolheber,	John Wenrick,	John Dubb,
John Snyder,	John Shaffer,	John Haag,

John Lebauch,	Michael Trane,	Phillip Wilhelm,
Jacob Rohrer,	John Bender,	Andrew Schrick,
John Hontz,	Michael Miller,	Samuel Shade, Jr.,
Michael Haverling,	John Werts,	Peter Lutz,
Henry Bare,	Jacob Liminger,	Jon. Zethman,
Abraham Keefer,	Jacob Shade,	Jacob Rouch,
John Bonewitz,	Daniel Aman,	Philip Schwalm.

Capt. Isaac Smith's company, Rifle Battalion, commanded by Major Hamilton :

Isaac Smith, Capt.	Frederick Frank,	Isaac Rutter,
Michael Lentz, Lieut.	Christian Peters,	Joseph Urich,
N. Buchanan, "	Peter Marsh,	George Lentz,
John Taylor, Ensign,	Michael Bower,	Grey Hilliard,
Thomas Black, Serg.	Daniel Wilson,	Peter Biting,
George Taylor, "	John Black,	George Zinn,
James Freeburn, "	Peter Chub,	David Swigard,
Henry Sheaffer, "	John Miller,	John Noblit,
Wilson Fuller, Corp.	William Loge,	John Lingafelter,
Abm. Freed, musician.	Adam Beacht,	Adam Bower,
Samuel Hummel, "	Abraham Jurey,	Jacob Gray,
Thomas Freeburn,	Daniel Heckerd,	George Jurey,
John Clark,	Daniel Lewer,	Samuel Huston,
John Reed,	Casper Heckerd,	Philip Cline.
Jacob Bower,		

Capt. Philip Fedderhoff's company, Second Regiment, commanded by Col. Ritcher :

P. Fedderhoff, Capt.	John Franklin,	John Frank,
Thos. Woodside, Lieut.	Frederick Foight,	George Dunckel,
John Shife, Ensign.	William Elliott,	Adam Lawdermilk,
J. Baughman, 1 Serg.	Adam Frantz,	Christian Lower,
Peter Wenner, 2 "	George Matter,	Jacob Werfel,
John Winn, 8 "	Peter Yeats,	Jacob Pouel,
G. Fedderhoff, 4 "	George Cooper,	Jacob Boardner,
Henry Frank, 1 Corp.	Dennis Harding,	Jacob Harman,
Philip Enders, 2 "	John Werth,	Stophel Yeager,
Jas. Howard, 8 "	Joseph Shoop,	Henry Neece,
John Hoffman, 4 "	Philip Umberger,	Peter Willier,

Jac. Yeager,	William Miller,	Benj. Ketter,
David Feagely,	Daniel Fleisher,	John Reickhart,
Lewis Imshoffstall,	Peter Minich,	Thomas Shartis,
Peter Ritzman,	Lewis Powel,	Henry Metz,
Peter Rumberger,	John Weise,	Henry Umholtz,
Daniel Harman,	Jonathan Woodside,	Peter Hoffman,
Peter Reist,	Conrad Cempel,	Daniel Ossman,
Henry Hiebsher,	Michael Lankart,	Henry Koch,
George Weaver,	James Gardner,	Isaac Novinger,
Jeremiah Shawbell,	Abraham Bicksler,	Reuben Ossman,
Jacob Shoop,	Jacob Dunckel,	Henry Shay,
John Ritzman,	Daniel Shupp,	Jacob Byrod, drum.
Philip Shut,	William Snyder,	Jacob Anderson,
George Lebo,	John Dunckel,	Henry Vesley.
Jacob Houge,	John Novinger,	

Capt. Gawen Henry's company, Rifle Battalion, commanded by Major Hamilton :

Gawen Henry, Capt.	Edward Hughes,	George Hiney,
Wm. Thomas, Lieut.	Alexander Lytle,	Peter Miller,
Adam Ross, Ensign,	William Gibson,	John Porter,
Dennis Hawes, 1 Serg.	Conrad Nichols,	Wendel Baumgardner,
Abm. Crosley, 2 "	Thomas Ridge,	Thomas Fulton,
Alex. Glasgow, 3 "	Adam Wilhelm,	Samuel Geistweit,
W. M'Courdy, 4 "	Thomas Best,	Joseph Geistweit,
Chr. Swayer, 1 Corp.	George Lefever,	John Ferguson,
John Newman, 2 "	James Ramsey,	Daniel Baker,
Mord. Boone, 3 "	John Bryon,	William Weaver,
E. T. James, 4 "	Samuel Carson,	George Rupley,
Henry Isett, drum.	John Over,	George Flasher,
Thos. Byron, fifer,	David Over,	Peter Burns,
John Midlem,	William Wade,	James Campbell,
Joseph Midlem,	Aaron Lukens,	William Meilim,
Griffeth Greene,	Jesse Lukens,	Samuel Reem,
Henry Erles,	Joseph Lukens,	George Fair,
Andrew Johnston,	Henry Moyer,	William Scott,
James Brickley,	Philip Kunkle,	Jacob Shirts,
Albert Winegardner,	John Crook,	William Baxter,
John Winegardner,	John Berryman,	Benj. Murphy,

Jacob Heiser,	Thomas Blake,	James White,
Daniel Thomas.	Thomas Woods,	Henry Wanmaher,
John Price,	Joseph Finurty,	Isaac Caselott,
George Wiant,	James Peling,	George Sheffer,
John Cohick,	John Waggoner,	Archibald M'Neal,
James Murray,	John Linton,	Lewis Dheble,
Peter Aubert,	James M'Namee,	Jonathan Jones,
King Reed,	Henry C. Moyer,	Robert Scott.

The following is a list of the principal field officers of the First Brigade, of which the above companies formed a part :

Brigadier General—John Forster.

Aid—Amos Ellmaker.

Brigade Inspector—Christian Spayd.

Brigade Major—John M. Forster.

Paymaster, appointed by the State previous to the troops being mustered into service—Robert Harris.

Paymaster under United States Government—Chris. Gleim.

#### THE CITIZENS REJOICING.

On Wednesday evening, October 15th, 1813, the citizens of Harrisburg manifested the high sense they entertained of Commodore Perry's gallant achievement on Lake Erie, by the firing of cannon, a handsome display of sky-rockets, and a splendid illumination of the houses. The windows in front of the State House (Court House building) were ornamented with elegant transparencies, emblematic of the glorious event, and for a while party feeling gave place to the generous glow of patriotic enthusiasm.

General Harrison's victory at the battle of the Thames river was also celebrated by the citizens of the borough with every testimony of heartfelt joy. A piece of artillery was put on board of a flat-bottomed boat, from which nineteen rounds were fired as it floated past the town. A number of sky-rockets were likewise fired from the middle pier of the Harrisburg bridge, which produced a very handsome effect.

## FIRES IN 1813.

Two very disastrous fires occurred in the town during the months of March and May of 1813. The first broke out about 1 o'clock in the morning of the 14th of the former month, in a stable belonging to William Graydon, Esq., situated on River alley, between Chestnut and Market streets. Owing to the combustible materials of which the stable was constructed, the fire progressed with astonishing rapidity; and notwithstanding the exertions of the citizens and wetness of the morning, its course was not arrested until it had destroyed the following property: A stable belonging to Joshua Elder; one belonging to John M. Price, of Philadelphia; one belonging to Henry Fulton, of Pittsburg; one belonging to William Graydon, in which it originated. Several adjacent buildings were in imminent danger, but were saved by the exertions of the citizens and members of the Legislature.

The second fire originated about sunrise on the 4th of the latter month, in a stable occupied by Mr. Miller, innkeeper, situated in River alley, between Chestnut and Market streets, and adjoining the spot where the previous fire was arrested. This fire consumed the following buildings:

A new brick building belonging to John Fager, hatter; a stable belonging to Henry Issett, of Greensburg, where it originated; three stables belonging to George Hoyer, merchant, in the occupancy of himself, Adam Coover, innkeeper, and Mr. Miller, innkeeper; a stable of William Murray, merchant; a stable of Dr. Martin Luther; a stable of Moses Musgrave; all of which had more or less of flour and provender therein, which was entirely consumed. The Bank and many other valuable houses were at one time in imminent danger. It was the work of an incendiary. The fire department at this period consisted of the "Union" and "Friendship" engines.



## FIRE IN 1819.

"FIRE.—On Wednesday morning last, about the dawn of day, a fire broke out in this borough, at the corner of Front and Mulberry streets, and the adjacent buildings being in a very combustible state, it was not got under until six dwelling houses and several stables were reduced to ashes. Providentially the morning was uncommonly calm, and what little wind there was stirring, was chiefly in a direction towards the river, otherwise, in all probability, the destruction would have been immense. The principal sufferers by the fire were: Valentine Egle, the corner (tavern) house; Joseph J. Marshall, mercer and tailor, whose loss is severe; the next was the house occupied by David Wilmot, as a grocery store, which, with a considerable share of its contents, was destroyed; and, melancholy to relate, Mr. Wilmot himself, in the act of shoving some bulky article of furniture out of the second story window, became entangled with it, or lost his balance, and was precipitated on the pavement. His skull was fractured, and he survived but about two hours. Mr. W. was a man of excellent moral character, and all who knew him were his friends. He has left a disconsolate widow, in a precarious state of health, to deplore the loss of an excellent husband, whose departure is rendered doubly afflicting by its suddenness and the circumstances attending it. Mr. W. was interred in the Presbyterian burial ground yesterday morning, with Masonic honors, in the presence of a large assemblage of the citizens of Harrisburg.

Mrs. Hess (widow) and Mr. Samuel Sees, tailor, were the last in the order of sufferers, but we have not learned the extent of their loss. Mr. Sees, we understand, saved the most of his property. Mrs. Hess, it is said, beside the loss of her house, was a loser in personal property to a considerable amount.

Whether the fire originated from design or accident remains unknown."—*Harrisburg Republican*, July 16, 1819.

## HARRISBURG CANAL.

In the winter of 1822-3, an act of Assembly was passed, entitled "An act to enable the Governor to incorporate a company for making a canal and lock navigation on the waters of the Susquehanna, near the borough of Harrisburg, with power to the said company to supply the said borough with water and to insure against fire."

The law contemplated that the water for the canal should be taken from the Susquehanna, near Stoney creek, about eight miles north-west of the borough, and was to be discharged at the mouth of Paxton creek. The objects to be attained were, "water power for manufactories, and the construction of reservoirs for supplying the town with wholesome water for domestic use and extinguishing fires."

The gentlemen named in the act met at the house of Mr. Gleim, in Harrisburg, on the 3d of December, 1825, and organized by appointing the following officers :

President—John Forster ; Managers—John Zinn, John S. Weistling, C. Gleim, Samuel Pool, John Ritchey, Benj. Kugler, A. Bombaugh, and Valentine Hummel ; Treasurer—Thos. Whiteside ; Secretary—John Roberts.

L. Baldwin, Esq., of Boston, was engaged as Engineer, who made a survey of the route, and located the canal. A large portion of the subscription to the stock of the company had been taken, but not all paid in, when the Legislature authorized the construction of the State canal, which was located over the route of that occupied by the Harrisburg canal, and which consequently extinguished the rights of the company owning the latter.

## THE SHAKSPEARE HOUSE.

This building, situated at the corner of Locust street and Raspberry alley, now occupied by the Harrisburg Female Semi-

nary, was erected in the year 1822, by the late John Wyeth, father of John and Francis Wyeth, still residing here. The architect was John Hills, a son of Stephen Hills, who constructed the public buildings. He threw up the contract, however, before the building was completed, and it was finished by another architect.

The building is about one hundred feet long by fifty feet wide, and originally contained in the basement story, beside a capacious cellar, six large and commodious rooms, for kitchens and private apartments, suitable for a restaurant. The second story had thirteen rooms, including a large dining room, with an entry through the house. The story above had a large ball room, thirty by twenty-seven feet, and a number of smaller rooms, with a theatre and stage, capable of holding six hundred persons.

The first person who opened the building for hotel purposes was Thomas Wallace, who had been an officer of the Legislature. The first theatrical performances in the building were under the direction of Mr. H. A. Williams, of Philadelphia. His lease of the theatre continued for two years, and among his performers were his wife, Miss Carter, Messrs. Morrison, Matthews, Blissit, Hughes, Simonds, and Anderson.

We are indebted to a friend for the following extract of a letter from an aged and now prominent citizen of New York city, who in 1827 performed in this theatre, under the name of "Tancred." It relates an incident with which our old citizens may be familiar :

"Chagrined and disappointed in not 'dying on a field of battle,' I left the editorial chair and betook myself to the stage, by invitation of the manager at Harrisburg, in the month of January, 1827. Here I appeared under favorable auspices, and in a couple of months took a benefit, producing a piece of my own getting up—an old story I had read being dramatized for the occasion. The older stagers had taken their benefits, and had

but slim houses. The novelty of 'the first time on any stage of *Tancred*,' and to be represented before the assembled wisdom of the State—the Legislature being in session at the time—occasioned a crowded house of the beauty, fashion and *élite* of the capital. The curtain rose upon a piece entitled 'Family Jars;' my maiden effort was to crown the evening's entertainment. The jealousy of the older stagers was at the highest pitch at the good appearance of the 'front.' Never before was the Harrisburg Theatre so crowded. A conspiracy was set on foot by four of the actors, and they at once determined to blast, or in theatrical parlance, 'd—n the piece and its author.' Fortunately, however, I had provided a large portion of the audience with printed copies of my play, in three acts, and the conspiracy was discovered by them as well as by myself. These four actors spoke anything but the author's words, and by every effort endeavored to ridicule the affair.

At the end of the second act I, who was performing the principal character of the play, stepped before the drop curtain, and, in an appropriate manner, begged the indulgence of the house, and spoke of the wrongs under which I was suffering; and added, that all who chose should receive their tickets from the door-keeper, and present them at the box office, where they would receive their money back. A universal shout of 'no! no!' 'go on! go on!' was the only response; and, bowing in humble acknowledgment of their kindness, I retired through the stage door, and was immediately attacked by the four ruffianly conspirators—one with a drawn sword, who gave a well-nigh fatal cut on my head. In the excitement, the ladies on the stage screamed with terror—the curtain was run up *instantly*, and I crossed the stage, a bleeding, ghastly figure, and fell from loss of blood at the opposite wing. The terror spread throughout the house, and a grasping of shawls and bonnets, of hats and a rush for the doors, was the result. With commendable praise, two gallant surgeons who were in the house, and who were my

friends, rushed upon the stage to my rescue. I was removed to one of the dressing rooms, where my wounds were cared for, and by four o'clock the next morning I was restored to consciousness. One of the assailants fled across the Susquehanna bridge *in his stage dress*, and the remaining three were seized by the police and placed in durance. Three days after, I left them off on leg bail.

The manager pocketed the funds of the night, and waited a week—then put up bills for a benefit of the favorite lady of the corps; but it was 'no go.' Not a single ticket could be sold; *and this was the last attempt at a theatrical performance in that theatre.* It was afterwards converted into a large hotel, called the Shakspeare."

#### GEN. LA FAYETTE IN HARRISBURG.

On Sunday, the 30th of January, 1825, notice was received that Gen. La Fayette and suite were on their way to Harrisburg; whereupon Messrs. Hawkins and Baker, of the joint committee of the Legislature, and M. C. Rogers, Esq., Secretary of the Commonwealth, proceeded from town in carriages towards York, by the way of Middletown, for the purpose of meeting the General's party. Dinner was prepared for them at Middletown, and an outrider sent forward to ascertain if the General was upon that road. At about half-past ten, the General, accompanied by his son, George Washington La Fayette, and secretary, Gen. Spangler, Col. Spangler, and Dr. King, a committee deputed to escort him from York, were received at Middletown, and took dinner. At about five o'clock they arrived in Harrisburg, and were hailed by the expecting crowd with great enthusiasm. The General and suite were then escorted to the Governor's residence, in consequence of an invitation which had been forwarded to him for that purpose.

A committee from the Dauphin cavalry waited on the Gen-

eral at the Governor's, and tendered a renewal of their respects paid to him in Philadelphia, as the Governor's late escort to that city. He recognized them, and informed them it would give him great pleasure to see them all at his lodgings that evening. After which the members of the troop, who resided in town generally, with many other citizens, paid their respects to him, and were highly delighted.

He remained at the Governor's that night, and on the next morning he was waited upon by the legislative committee of arrangements, on behalf of whom Mr. Hawkins welcomed the General to the seat of government in a neat and feeling address, to which the General made a happy response.

About eleven o'clock he was conducted to the Executive Chamber in the Capitol, where the greater part of the members of the Legislature and many others were introduced to him. A little after ten o'clock the members of the Harrisburg bar waited upon him in a body, when George Fisher, Esq, on their behalf, made an appropriate address, to which the General replied. At two o'clock he returned to the Governor's residence; and at eight o'clock in the evening he visited Perseverance Lodge of Masons, and remained there about a quarter of an hour.

On Tuesday, at twelve o'clock, he was conducted again to the Capitol, escorted by a corps of dragoons, under the command of Major Forster, and companies of volunteers from the counties of Cumberland, Lebanon and Dauphin, and the firemen of the borough. His arrival at the Capitol was announced by a salute of thirteen guns, under the direction of Lieut. Weise, of Carlisle.

He was introduced to the Senate by Mr. Hawkins, and the Speaker welcomed him by a beautiful address, to which the General made an appropriate reply. He was then invited to a seat at the Speaker's right hand, and presently afterwards the Senate adjourned. A number of gentlemen and ladies were then introduced to him.

At one o'clock he was introduced to the House of Representatives by Mr. Baker, when the Speaker, Gen. Sutherland, welcomed him by an eloquent address, commencing as follows :

*"Dear General—About half a century ago, one of the purest of the patriots of the Revolution, the venerable John Hancock, occupied the chair from which you have just risen."*

To which the General returned an appropriate reply, commencing as follows :

*"Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House of Representatives—Amidst the patriotic recollections which the sight of the presidential chair of my venerable friend John Hancock could not fail to excite, and which have been described by you, Mr. Speaker, in a manner adequate to the sublime theme, it is hardly permitted to indulge private remembrances ; yet, encouraged as I am by the kindness of this House in my behalf, I beg leave to acknowledge before you the emotions connected with the thought that from this chair also he signed my early admission as a soldier in the American army."*

He was then invited to a seat at the Speaker's right hand, and presently afterwards the House adjourned. At two o'clock he was waited upon by the students of Dickinson College with an address, to which he replied. About three o'clock he returned, escorted as before, to the Governor's.

At four o'clock a subscription dinner was given to the General at Matthew Wilson's Hotel, by a number of the members of the Legislature, at which his Excellency the Governor, the Heads of Department, Judge Gibson, George W. La Fayette, the committee from York, a few veterans of the Revolution, and a number of the residents of the borough were present. Mr. Speaker Marks presided. The most cordial hilarity prevailed on the occasion. At the particular request of the General, "**Hail Columbia**" was sung *by himself* and the whole company

standing. After the cloth was removed, a number of patriotic toasts were given, among which was the following :

*"Gen. La Fayette.—Our fathers hailed him as a defender; we rejoice to welcome him as a guest."*

The General rose, and after having expressed to the members of the Legislature the grateful sense he had of their kind welcome, gave the following toast :

*"The State of Pennsylvania.—First founded upon the basis of justice and philanthropy, now governed by universal suffrage on the unalloyed principle of equal rights; may it long preserve these dignified and fruitful blessings."*

The Governor and Gen. La Fayette retired about eight o'clock, and the company presently afterwards broke up.

The students of Shoop's school, situated about three miles from the borough, sent a written patriotic address to the General, which was handed to him at his lodgings; to which the General replied a few days after by letter from Washington.

On Wednesday morning the volunteers were paraded in Market Square, and reviewed by the General, supported by the Governor, after which they saluted him at his quarters. At eleven o'clock he took his departure for York, accompanied by his suite, two of the committee of arrangements of the Legislature, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

#### [IMPROVING THE NAVIGATION OF THE SUSQUEHANNA.

As previously shown, public attention was first directed to the importance of removing the obstructions and improving the navigation of the Susquehanna river as early as the year 1795. The Legislature, however, appears to have taken no definite action in relation to the matter until March, 1823, at which time an act was passed for the improvement of the river from Northumberland to tide-water, and appointing Jabez Hyde, Jr.,



John M'Means, and Samuel L. Wilson, commissioners to superintend the work.

These commissioners, in a report made to the Legislature, January 14, 1828, state :

"That the contracts entered into for the improvement of the navigation of the Susquehanna river, between the town of Columbia and tide, is nearly completed, and when the residue is finished, they believe all will be done that is necessary to perfect the descending navigation between said points. Crafts will then be able to descend from Columbia to the head of the Maryland canal carrying from fifty to sixty tons, at a stage of water at which, previous to the improvements, they could not arrive at the latter place with more than one-half that quantity."

"The commissioners further report, on the improvement of the river between the towns of Columbia and Northumberland, that the unfinished contracts of the years 1825 and 1826 are completed, but will not be of that infinite advantage until further improvements are made to correspond with those already finished, the Legislature having suspended the appropriation for the past year."

The total amount of expenditures made by the commissioners for the improvement of the river from the town of Columbia to the town of Northumberland, up to January 14, 1828, as stated in the report, was \$1,201 50, and that for improving the river between the town of Columbia and tide-water, to the same period, \$14,323 37, making the sum total of \$15,524 87.

#### STEAMBOATS ON THE SUSQUEHANNA.

This action of the Legislature, together with the favorable report of the commissioners, induced a number of enterprising citizens of Baltimore to form a company for the purpose of testing the practicability of running steamboats on the Susquehanna, between the towns of York Haven and Northumberland. The project was favorably received, and the stock of the com-

pany immediately subscribed. Three light-draught steamboats, named, respectively, the "Codus," "Susquehanna," and "Pioneer," were constructed, all of which arrived for the first time at Harrisburg in the fall of 1825.

The following extracts have reference to these boats :

"The sheet-iron steamboat 'Codus' paid another visit to Harrisburg on Sunday last, with the members from York county as passengers. The members of the Legislature in general are much pleased with the performance of this boat, and express great satisfaction with the success of the experiment. From what we have heard, we infer that there will be a legislative enactment in favor of the enterprising proprietors."—*Chronicle*, December 5, 1825.

"STEAMBOATS.—The steamboat 'Susquehanna' left this place on Monday last, for York Haven.

The 'Pioneer' returned to Harrisburg on Wednesday last. The machinery of the vessel is not of sufficient power to stem the current of Hunter's Falls.

The 'Codus' is lying at Montgomery's Ferry, about twenty miles above Harrisburg."—*Ibid*, April 3, 1826.

In a letter dated July 14, 1834, addressed to the Secretary of War, Hon. Lewis Cass, by Henry K. Strong, Esq, on behalf of the citizens of Harrisburg, relative to opening a steamboat communication between the Chesapeake Bay, by way of the Susquehanna and the lakes, allusion is made to one of the above named steamboats, perhaps the "Codus," as follows :

"Eight years ago, a sheet-iron steamboat, built at York, in this State, was put upon the river, about twelve miles below Harrisburg, and forty from tide-water, and was propelled by steam to the line separating the States of Pennsylvania and New York, nearly two-thirds of the whole distance from the Chesapeake bay to the lakes. If this was not the first steamboat ever constructed, it was *the first that ever sailed upon American waters.*"

The editor of the "Harrisburg Chronicle," Hugh Hamilton, Esq., appears to have been somewhat skeptical as to the practical use of these boats, as will be seen by the following extract from that paper :

"The people of Baltimore are in high spirits in consequence of the successful trip of the 'Susquehanna' up the North and West branches, to Danville and Milton. While we think great credit is due to the enterprise of the Baltimore Steamboat Company, and congratulate them upon the result of the experiment, which has demonstrated that a steamboat can move against the rapids of the river Susquehanna, we remain skeptical as to the practical use of the boats that have visited us. The weight of an engine of sufficient power to propel the boats up the rapids produces such a draught as must prevent their running, unless the water should be at a high stage, and such a stage we have not more than three months of the year, March, April, and May."

The steamboats continued to visit the borough at short intervals during the continuance of a medium stage of water in the river until after April, 1826, when one of them—the "Susquehanna"—exploded its boiler while making its way through a narrow passage of shoal water in the river, at or near Berwick, Columbia county, which almost totally destroyed it, beside killing two, and severely injuring several of its passengers, among whom was Christian Brobst, Esq., member of the Legislature from Columbia county. This accident appears to have damped the ardor of the proprietors, and shortly afterwards the boats were removed from the river to a more favorable latitude.

The steamboat enterprise was not again renewed on the Susquehanna, in this vicinity, until the spring of 1857, when a company of citizens purchased and brought here a small side-wheel steamboat, that had formerly been used as a pleasure boat on the river Delaware, at Philadelphia. The boat made fre-

quent excursions on the river during the summer following, but the speculation proving a failure, the stockholders resold it to its original owners, and in the fall of the year it was returned to Philadelphia.

*Correspondence between the citizens of Harrisburg and the War Department, on the subject of Sloop and Steamboat Navigation.*

On the 20th of September, 1833, a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Harrisburg was held at the Court House, in Harrisburg, to take into consideration the propriety of opening a steamboat and sloop communication between the Chesapeake bay and the lakes, by way of the Susquehanna river.

The following were the officers of the meeting: Valentine Hummel, Sr., President; Joel Bailey and Henry Buehler, Vice Presidents; Charles C. Rawn and Mordecai M'Kinney, Secretaries.

At this meeting resolutions were passed declaring the project national in its character and advantages, and necessary for national defence.

A general committee was appointed, from which select committees were chosen to draft an address to the people of the United States; to draft a memorial to Congress, and to address the Secretary of War.

On the 17th of October following, Henry Buehler, Esquire, from the select committee, published an address to the people of the United States.

At the same time, G. W. Harris, Esq., from the select committee, reported a memorial to Congress, which was published, circulated, and signed by a large number of citizens in various parts of the country, and sent to that body at its next session. A bill favorable to the project, and making a specific appropriation for a survey, was reported by the Internal Improvement Committee in the House of Representatives, but at so late a period in the session that it was not acted upon.

On the 25th of July, 1834, Henry K. Strong, Esq., from the select committee, transmitted an able and convincing address to Hon. Lewis Cass, then Secretary of War, in which, after showing the advantages of a sloop and steamboat communication between the Chesapeake bay and the lakes, by way of the Susquehanna, he inquired "whether a survey of the route could not be made by an engineer in the service of the government during the present summer?"

In reply, John J. Abert, Lieutenant Colonel Topographical Engineers, stated that "*the Department was fully impressed with the importance of the route described*, but the conditions and engagements of the office were such that it was not in its power to attend to the project during the present season."

A few days after the receipt of this intelligence, Mr. Strong again addressed the Secretary of War, repeating a request for the services of an engineer to survey the river; to which Col. Abert, on behalf of the Secretary of War, again replied, stating that "Dr. William Howard, with two assistants, are the engineers whose services would be placed at the disposal of the parties interested in the matter."

At a meeting of the general committee of the citizens of Harrisburg, held August 16, 1834, the following officers were chosen: Valentine Hummel, President; Mordecai M'Kinney, Secretary; Henry Walters, Treasurer.

A communication was received from Dr. William Howard, United States engineer, estimating the expense, and making several suggestions relative to the proposed improvement; and stating that, "by his orders, he was entirely under the direction of the committee, and ready to execute any plan of operations which they might determine."

The following gentlemen were then chosen an executive committee: Henry K. Strong, George Mish, Valentine Hummel, Sr., Jacob M. Haldeman, John C. Bucher.

The report of Dr. Howard was referred to the executive com-

mittee, with instructions to devise a plan of operation survey.

The project was ultimately abandoned, in consequence, believe, of the death of Dr. Howard, and the refusal of Congress to extend pecuniary co-operation.

#### RIOT IN 1825.

On Thursday, April 21, 1825, the borough was disturbed by a serious riot. A man from Maryland had followed a slave of whom he had obtained information, after an absence of more than a year, found him in Harrisburg, and lodged in jail. He was brought up on a writ of *habeas corpus*, and at a hearing surrendered to his master. A great number of people attended the investigation, armed with clubs and stones, and exhibited a menacing appearance. As a matter of provocation, the master tied the slave's hands behind his back; he left the Court House steps, the colored men rushed forward upon him and attempted a rescue. A serious combat ensued in which a number of the citizens were involved and received injury. In the melee one of the Marylanders fired a pistol, having received several blows from the colored men, whom he wounded in the arm.

Resistance then subsided, and the slave was taken to a house and secured. The colored people gathered about the house and after some time another fracas took place. The consequence was, that the civil authorities interfered, and about ninety of the colored men were committed to prison. The Court commenced its sessions on the following Monday, and the jury found a true bill against sixteen of them. The trial continued until Wednesday evening, and on Thursday morning the Court rendered a verdict of guilty against twelve of them, and acquitted four. One of the twelve convicted subsequently escaped, but the remaining eleven were sentenced to the *tread-mill*.

grand jury having appropriated \$300 for the construction of the same.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The borough was divided into the South and North ward election districts by an act of Assembly passed in 1822.

In digging a cellar, about thirty-five years ago, on Forster's Island, opposite Harrisburg, at the depth of five feet several Indian darts were found. Trees of enormous growth stood a few years before on the spot where they were exhumed.

A strenuous effort was made in the Legislature, in 1827, to remove the seat of government from Harrisburg.

In 1825-6-7 there were FIVE military companies in the borough, as follows :

Dauphin Cavalry—R. T. Jacobs, O. S.

Harrisburg Guards—P. Frazer, O. S.

Pennsylvania Guards—H. Chritzman, Adjutant.

Harrisburg Junior Guards—S. Pool, O. S.

Harrisburg Union Infantry—J. Black, O. S.

## THE PENN LOCK OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CANAL.

On Tuesday, March 14, 1827, the first corner-stone that was laid in the locks of the Pennsylvania canal, was laid in lock No. 6, at the foot of Walnut street, Harrisburg. There was a Masonic procession, followed by the Governor and Heads of Department, the members of the Legislature, the Burgesses and members of the Town Council, and a great concourse of citizens. In the stone were deposited the names of the members of the Legislature at the time of the passage of the act for commencing the Pennsylvania canal, (1825,) and the Governor who approved it, with the following scroll :

"This corner-stone  
 Of lock No. 6, from the Swatara river, was laid in Masonic  
 form, on the 13th day of March, Anno  
 Domini 1827, Anno Lucius 5827,  
 By the Worshipful Master and brethren of Perseverance  
 Lodge, No. 21,  
 In presence of the Governor, Heads of Departments of State,  
 members of the Legislature, and the citizens  
 of the borough of Harrisburg;  
 When it was unanimously styled by the Engineer  
 and Acting Commissioner,  
 THE PENN LOCK,  
 In commemoration of the great founder of the State, and of  
 the enterprize of the citizens of the Commonwealth  
 of Pennsylvania in the promotion of  
 internal improvements.  
 William and Michael Byrne, and Alexander and  
 Paul Provost, builders.  
 Charles Mowry, Acting Commissioner.  
 Dr. Wm. Darlington, President.  
 John Sergeant, David Scott, Abner Lacock, Daniel Mont-  
 gomery, John Philips, Thos. Enochs, Geo. M.  
 Dallas, Esqrs., Commissioners.  
 Joseph M'Irvine, Esq., Secretary of the Board.  
 William Strickland, Engineer.  
 Francis W. Rawle, Assistant Engineer.  
 Samuel H. Kneass, Geo. Merrick, Wm. B. Norris, Emerson  
 M'Irvine, Robert Faries, William Rodrigue,  
 Chas. L. Schlatter, Assistants.  
 William Grove, Superintendent of Masons.  
 Frederick William Leopold, Clerk of the Works."

After the Masonic ceremonies, Mr. Ritner, Speaker of the  
 House of Representatives, delivered an address suitable to the



occasion. The procession returned to town; and the Masonic fraternity, who had for their guest Gov. Carrol, of Tennessee, and a number of citizens, partook of an excellent dinner at Mr. Henzy's Jackson Hotel.

In altering the course of the canal, last summer, a short distance to the east of the original line, this lock was torn down, but we could not learn what disposition was made of the cornerstone. It should have occupied a conspicuous place in the new lock; and if this was not the case, its contents ought to have been preserved in the museum of the State Department.

#### THE HARRISBURG LANCASTERIAN SCHOOL.

From the adoption of the Constitution of 1790 until 1809, no legislative provision of a general nature was made in reference to public schools. An act was then passed "for the gratuitous education of the poor." It required a report to be made by the assessors of the townships, wards and boroughs, to the commissioners of the respective counties, of all children between the ages of five and twelve years whose parents were unable to provide for their education; and that when the lists had been approved by the commissioners, that such parents should be notified thereof, and be permitted to send their children to the most convenient schools, at the expense of the county. Notwithstanding the many defects of this law, it continued in force, until it was repealed by that of 29th March, 1824, which provided that every township should elect three "schoolmen," who should superintend the education of poor children within their respective townships, and "cause them to be instructed as other children are treated, the expense of tuition to be paid by the county." But each county might authorize the "schoolmen" to divide the township into school districts, and to establish schools at the expense of the townships, to which all children belonging to the districts might be sent for three years at any

time between the ages of six and fourteen years. This law was applicable to the whole State, with the exception of certain school districts in the city and county of Philadelphia and city and county of Lancaster. It was repealed in 1826, and the act of 1809 revived.

By the act of 2d April, 1831, however, the basis of a more efficient school system was laid. The Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Auditor General, and the Secretary of the Land Office, were appointed commissioners to receive and manage the school fund, with power to receive and hold for the use thereof, all gifts, grants and donations that might be made thereto, and all the monies due the Commonwealth by the holders of unpatented lands; also, all monies secured to the Commonwealth by mortgages or liens for the purchase money of the same, (this land debt was estimated at two millions of dollars,) as also all fees received in the Land Office, with the addition of the sum of one mill on the dollar added to the county rates by the act of the 25th March, 1831, were assigned to the common school fund, and held by the Commonwealth for the use thereof, at the interest of five per cent. per annum. The interest was directed to be added to the principal as it became due, and the whole amount to be holden by the Commonwealth, subject to the payment of interest on loans made to the State for internal improvements, until the interest should amount to one hundred thousand dollars annually, after which the interest was to be distributed annually to the support of common schools throughout the Commonwealth, in such manner as would thereafter be provided by law.

Besides the general provisions for education above noticed, special ones were enacted for certain portions of the State. Thus in 1818 the city and county of Philadelphia were erected into a district, called the "first school district" of Pennsylvania. By the act of April 1, 1822, the city and county of Lancaster were erected into the "second school district," with privileges

and duties similar to the first. By the act of 11th April, 1827, the same system was established at Harrisburg, and by act of 19th February, 1828, at Pittsburg.

The following is a copy of the act of 11th of April, 1827, establishing the Lancasterian school system at Harrisburg:

*An Act to authorize the Commissioners of Dauphin county to establish a public school in the borough of Harrisburg.*

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted, &c.,* That the commissioners of Dauphin county be authorized to make use of any part of the courthouse of the said county which may be unoccupied, build, or procure a suitable building for the purpose of educating the children directed to be taught at the public expense, and also to furnish the same for the accommodation of children.

SECT. 2. That said commissioners be authorized and required to engage a suitable teacher or teachers, at a fixed salary or otherwise, as they may deem proper: *Provided*, such teacher be approved of by the school committee to be hereafter appointed.

SECT. 3. That the commissioners shall be required to direct all the children educated at the public expense, who shall reside in the borough of Harrisburg and within one mile thereof, to attend a school established by their direction, which shall be taught and conducted on the principles of Lancaster's system of education, in its most approved state.

SECT. 4. That the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin county, at their regular spring term, and during the spring term of each and every subsequent year, shall appoint nine respectable citizens residing within the borough of Harrisburg, to be designated a school committee, whose business it shall be, at the request of the county commissioners, to examine the qualifications and ability of said teacher, and if found worthy, shall give him a certificate of approval, which shall be a sufficient voucher to said commissioners; and it shall be further the duty of said committee to visit and examine said school twice in every quar-

ter, or oftener if necessary, and recommend such rules and regulations as will best contribute to the advancement of the youth of said school.

SECT. 5—[Provides for the supplying of vacancies in the school committee.]

SECT. 6. That said commissioners may admit children whose parents or guardians are in circumstances to pay for their tuition, and shall be at liberty to charge in each individual case any sum, which may be agreed on between the parties, which shall be applied in all cases to the support of said school.

SECT. 7. That the said commissioners shall have power to draw orders on the county treasurer for any sum or sums of money to pay the expense of erecting or procuring a suitable building for the purpose aforesaid, and also for such sums of money necessary in furnishing books, stationery, and all things necessary in establishing, maintaining and conducting said school; and all such orders drawn upon the county treasurer shall be paid by him, and the orders thus paid shall be his authority for paying such sums, and to the persons mentioned in said orders.

SECT. 8. That it shall be the duty of said commissioners to keep an accurate account of the proceedings of said school, which account shall be examined and settled annually by the auditors of the county, and shall publish a statement of the same in the month of January in each and every year, the number of children educated in said school, as well as the amount of expenditure, and of the sums received for the tuition of children whose parents, guardians or friends have defrayed any part or the whole of the expenses of their education.

SECT. 9. That as soon as the said school shall be established and fit for the reception of scholars, the said commissioners shall give public notice thereof in at least three public newspapers printed in said borough of Harrisburg; and that no tuition for children taught at the expense of the county, who shall reside

within the bounds aforesaid, will be paid by the county, contracted after thirty days' notice given as aforesaid.

SECT. 10. That so much of every act of Assembly relating to the education of the poor, as far as the same may affect the borough of Harrisburg, and within one mile thereof, as is altered or supplied by this act, shall be repealed, and cease to operate from and after the time mentioned in the ninth section of this act."

The "Lancasterian system" provided for in the third section of the above act, was so called in honor of its founder, Mr. Lancaster, a native of England. It was based upon monitorial or mutual instruction. Thus, a school would be divided into several sections, according to the acquirements of the scholars, over each one of which was appointed by the master a "monitor"—generally the most intelligent and advanced scholar—whose duty it was to superintend the instruction of his companions in the section to which he belonged. Of course, all the sections were under the general superintendence of the master.

We give several extracts from the minutes of the proceedings of the commissioners of Dauphin county in relation to the above quoted act of Assembly, which illustrates the rise, progress and final abolition of the Lancasterian school in Harrisburg:

"JULY 4, 1827.

Commissioners met. Present—Messrs. Brua, Rathfon, and Moody. The following preamble and resolution were read and adopted:

WHEREAS, The commissioners of Dauphin county have caused a room in the Court House to be prepared for a school on the Lancasterian plan, and have engaged a teacher to conduct such a school agreeably to the act of Assembly of April 11, 1827; therefore,

Resolved, That the teacher employed by the commissioners of the county be directed to receive into the said school, to be

instructed according to the aforesaid plan, all the children whose tuition is required by law to be paid by the county, and whose names are or shall hereafter be entered on the list of poor children in the commissioners' office, residing in the borough of Harrisburg, or within one mile thereof. Other children to be admitted into the school at the rate of one dollar per quarter of a year, to be paid for the use of the county. A reduction from this rate to be allowed according to the circumstances of the parents of the children, at the discretion of the commissioners."

By another resolution adopted at *this* meeting of the board, the school was directed to be opened on the 9th of July, 1827; but at a meeting held on the 11th of May previous, the board elected William C. Jenks teacher, at a salary of \$550 per annum, and directed the school to commence on the 7th of May. It is probable, however, that one of these dates is a clerical error; or perhaps it was the original design of the board to open the school on the 7th of May, but not having concluded the arrangements in time, deferred it until the 9th of July.

At a meeting of the commissioners held in the month of April, 1828, William C. Jenks was reappointed teacher of the school at a salary of \$800 per annum.

At this period the whole number of children taught in the school was three hundred and fifty.

The number of children taught in the school whose parents, guardians or friends defrayed or agreed to defray any part of the whole of the expense of their tuition, was one hundred and fifty-four.

The amount received for the tuition of children whose parents, guardians or friends defrayed the whole or any part of their education, was fifty-five dollars and eight cents.

The amount due for the tuition of children whose parents, guardians or friends agreed to pay the whole or any part of their education, was two hundred and fifty-one dollars and twenty cents.

The limited accommodations which the room in the Court House afforded for such a large and increasing school, induced the county commissioners to avail themselves of the privileges extended in the first section of the act authorizing the establishment of the school; and accordingly they purchased of the late Thomas Elder, Esq., the two lots of ground situated in Walnut street, numbered in the general plan of the borough 262 and 263, for the purpose of erecting thereon a suitable building for the accommodation of the school. The deed conveying these lots is recorded in book B, vol. 2, page 427, in the Recorder's office.

We continue our extracts from the commissioners' minutes :

"JUNE 20, 1828.

Commissioners met.—Present, Messrs. Moody, Brua, and Cochran. Proposals were received for building a school house for the 'Lancasterian School.' "

"JULY 4, 1828.

Commissioners met.—Present, Messrs. Moody and Peter Brua. The commissioners entered into a contract with Samuel Bryan for building a house for the Lancasterian school, in Harrisburg, at a cost of \$4,250, according to article of agreement."

It is probable that Mr. Bryan completed his contract in the fall of 1829, for we find in the "Order Book" that he was paid by Order No. 25, dated January 9, 1830, the sum of \$585 54, "being the balance due him on settlement of his account for building Lancasterian school house."

"NOVEMBER 7, 1832.

Commissioners met.—Present, Messrs. Archibald Orme, John Imshoffstall, and Abraham Bombaugh.

The following resolution was read and adopted :

*Resolved*, That the clerk inform Jacob Richardson, teacher of colored children in Harrisburg, that in future the colored

children under his tuition shall be taught in the Lancasterian school, as the law directs; and that the commissioners will hereafter allow him no compensation for teaching said children."

"DECEMBER 8, 1833.

Commissioners met.—Present, Messrs. Imshoffstall, Bombaugh, and Kendig.

Mr. Bombaugh offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

*Resolved*, That in consequence of an act of the General Assembly, approved the 9th of April, 1833, the public school in the borough of Harrisburg on the Lancasterian system, and the services of J. A. Prest as teacher thereof, be discontinued from and after the 20th day of March, 1834.

*Resolved*, That J. A. Prest, teacher of the public school in the borough of Harrisburg on the Lancasterian system, be and he is hereby notified and requested to deliver up to the commissioners of the county of Dauphin, on Friday, the 21st day of March, 1834, all the accounts, vouchers, books, papers, furniture, &c., belonging to said public school house, and vacate the premises himself on the first day of April following."

By a resolution of the Board, passed January 20, 1834, the time for discontinuing the school and the delivery of the accounts, vouchers, books, &c., was extended to Tuesday, the 20th of May, 1834, at which time it appears to have been finally abolished.

In 1849 the school building, with the adjoining premises, were sold by the county commissioners to the school directors of the North Ward of the borough of Harrisburg, who made considerable alterations in its interior, better adapted to the use of schools under the present beneficial common school system.—When occupied by the Lancasterian school, the teacher, with his family, resided in the building. It is occupied now, we be —



lieve, by four of the North Ward public male schools, all in separate apartments.

The building is constructed of brick, two stories high, surmounted with a neat wooden steeple. It fronts on Walnut street, nearly the breadth of the two lots upon which it is built, and has a depth of about fifty feet. That portion of the lots not occupied by the building is enclosed with a substantial board fence, affording an excellent play-ground for the scholars during recess.

#### FIRE IN 1828.

"**FIRE.**—At daybreak on Wednesday last an alarm of fire was given in this borough. A small frame building, occupied by Mr. Geety as a tailor shop, situated on the east side of Market square, about midway between Buehler's Hotel and Wyeth's book store, was discovered to be on fire, and before relief could be procured, though the utmost diligence was exerted, the contiguous houses on both sides (being also frame buildings) had caught fire. All those towards Market street, including Wyeth's corner, (and down Market street to the building adjoining Wyeth's Hall) were burned to the ground; but those towards Buehler's Hotel were saved by extraordinary efforts, aided by the circumstance of a narrow vacancy between the building where the fire originated and the one occupied by Mr. Slauch. Most of the furniture, it is believed, of the sufferers, Messrs. Geety, Wormley, Wolf, and Wyeth, was saved. A small loss, however, is a serious deprivation as it regards most of them, and gives them a strong claim to the sympathy of the public."—*Intelligencer*, July 1, 1828.

#### FIRST WATER IN THE PENNSYLVANIA CANAL AT HARRISBURG.

"**PENNSYLVANIA CANAL.**—The water was on Tuesday last let into this canal, at M'Allister's mill, and a gentleman has

just stepped into our office with the information that it has reached and is filling the basin near this place.—*Harrisburg paper*, March 20, 1828.

#### GREAT SNOW STORM.

The year 1831 was distinguished for a great snow storm, which occurred in January.

“We do not recollect ever having witnessed so great a fall of snow as that which took place during the late storm. It commenced on Friday evening last, with an easterly wind, and continued without intermission until Sunday morning. If the snow had fallen without being disturbed by the wind, we presume it would have been at least two feet deep. But, as it was light and the wind fresh, it was blown and drifted in many places so as to be completely impassable. Many of our roads are filled up to the fence tops on each side, and are altogether impassable. Those compelled to travel have, in many places, to pass through fields and woods entirely off the track to find a passage. Our court commenced on Monday, and owing to the impossibility of getting to town through the snow, but four grand jurors out of twenty-four answered to their names, and it was not until Tuesday that a sufficient number appeared to do business, and then the whole number was but thirteen. We were for several days cut off from all communication eastward by mail. The Philadelphia stage, which should have arrived on Saturday night, did not reach us until Tuesday; and several of the stages that left here on Saturday morning were obliged to return. We have this consolation, however, if there is any consolation to be derived from company in difficulty, that there is not a paper received that has been published since the storm, particularly from towards the south, north, and east, that does not detail similar consequences from the same cause.”—*Harrisburg Reporter*, January 21, 1831.

## WATER POWER.

"A few days since, John Davies, Esq., at the instance of a number of gentlemen of Harrisburg, leveled the route of a canal or race for supplying the borough of Harrisburg with water, and creating a water power. The route pursued commenced at Brushy Rock, immediately below M'Allister's; thence along the shore to the lock above Updegraff's; thence along the low ground near the State canal, as far as the farm of John Fox; thence towards the river to the low ground on the south side of the ridge, extending through the lands of Messrs. Cox, Elder, M'Kee and Hummel, to the farm of Messrs. Orth and Reily; thence either crossing the turnpike and continuing along the bank to the upper end of Pottstown, and there again crossing the turnpike till after passing the works of the Messrs. Wiestling, there recrossing the road and continuing along the river to Maclaysburg or Maclay's rock, or else proceeding through the land of Messrs. Orth and Reily direct to North or State street, Maclaysburg, and thence to the river.

The estimate of the cost of the race was \$22,450 29, exclusive of sixteen hundred perches of post and rail fence. It was to be 17 feet wide at bottom, and the fall from M'Allister's to Harrisburg was 16 feet.

Judge Geddes, the distinguished engineer, formerly of this neighborhood, now residing in the State of New York, has kindly examined the principal points of the projected canal, and has expressed a very favorable opinion of it. He recommends a race of larger dimensions than the one above stated, viz: one of 25 feet wide at bottom, 40 at the surface, and 5 feet in depth, on account of its liability to freeze, and a fall of 4 inches in the mile. A race of these dimensions, Mr. Geddes calculates, would furnish 14,064 cubic feet of water per minute, or 234 cubic feet per second; also, that agreeably to the table stated in Evans' Mill-wright Guide, 8 cubic feet and six-tenths per second, acting

upon a pair of stones of 5 feet in diameter, making 97 revolutions per minute, with a fall of 14 feet and two-tenths, will grind five bushels of wheat per hour. 234,406 divided by 8.6, gives 27.48. Thus a race of the latter capacity, with a head of 14 feet and two-tenths, will produce a power sufficient to turn about twenty-seven pair of stones, capable of grinding five bushels of wheat per hour. But if, with the aid of a low dam on the falls at M'Allister's, the head be increased to 15.47 feet, it will require scarce 8 cubic feet of water per second to turn the same stones, and 234 cubic feet of water per second will then turn more than thirty pair of stones.

As the channel outside of Brushy Rock is used only when the water is too low to suffer craft to pass the channel next the shore, it is evident that a dam of two, three or four feet high will improve the inner channel, and thus benefit rather than injure the descending navigation. For the ascending navigation the canal has almost wholly superseded the river, but a windlass placed at the head of the channel would enable boats to pass it. If our citizens should be generally favorable to this project, (and there should be but one opinion on the subject,) the passage of the necessary law can in all probability be procured; and if so, the rapid advancement of our borough in wealth and population can be confidently anticipated."—*Harrisburg Chronicle*, August, 1831.

#### THE "FALLING STARS."

The 13th of November, 1833, is signalized as the period of the great meteoric shower—an exhibition of natural "fire-works" that will long be remembered by those who witnessed it. In Harrisburg, the scene is described as being "grand, awful and sublime." It occurred on a market morning, and to the ignorant and superstitious citizens and countrymen the phenomena was overwhelming and terrific. In the language of an observer, it "rained stars." Never before or since did such a countless

number of meteors fall from the empyrean in so short a space of time. Most of them were globular in shape, but many in their rapid motion left behind a luminous tail, and these the imagination of the credulous very readily transformed into so many "fiery serpents." It is almost impossible to conceive the horror of mind which seized upon some people, even when the phenomena was explained by the better informed. Many of the bold as well as timid citizens, yielding alike to apprehension, gave over all as lost, and passed the exciting period in lamentations and prayer. It was astonishing to behold how many became suddenly devout who were never devout before, yet, generally speaking, the fit of devotion was of no longer duration than the phenomena.

"When the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be ;  
When the devil was well, the devil a monk was he"—

might apply very well to the history of these conversions.

The following descriptions by eye-witnesses of this phenomena, were published in the Harrisburg Chronicle, printed at the time by Hugh Hamilton & Son :

"This morning (Wednesday, November 13, 1833) at a quarter past five, I was told that a very unusual number of shooting stars were to be seen ; and going out, I saw them radiating from a point overhead in every direction. It was not possible to count them, but I thought as many as from five to twenty in a second were darted off.

The radiating space was not exactly in the zenith, but a little S. S. E. of it. Some of the meteors were so bright as to throw a strong light on the whole sky, and attract my attention even when they were behind me. Sometimes a long track of light was left in the sky, and remained for more than a minute.

The very great number and rapidity of motion of these meteors could be compared to a large shower of hail. One of them appeared to be as large as a man's fist, and was of great bril-

liancy. The stream of light that remained in some cases ceased to be a straight line, and assumed first a snake-like form, and then doubled together.

The east was ruddy, and the morning star very bright when I first saw the meteors. They were not always regular in their emission, but there was not, I think, an instant of time in which several were not visible. It seemed as if there were several great discharges every minute.

I watched them till a quarter past six, when the sun was nearly up, at which time their light was very faint; but it seemed to me the number was only apparently diminished by being lost in the light of the morning. A very bright one was seen just at that time. E. L."

"About eleven o'clock on Tuesday night, an immense number of shooting stars, as they are erroneously termed, were observed in the atmosphere. They continued to increase until five o'clock in the morning, (Wednesday,) when the view which the heavens presented was grand beyond description. Ten thousand little meteors might be observed at a time, igniting, falling perpendicularly for a short distance, and then disappearing to be supplied by others. Not a cloud was visible, not a breath of air was perceptible. The luminous trail which each meteor left behind it as it moved, gave the heavens almost the appearance of a solid mass of flame. The scene continued until their light was eclipsed by the morning dawn."

#### FIRST ARRIVAL OF RAILROAD CARS AT HARRISBURG.

The first locomotive, drawing a train of cars, that arrived at Harrisburg, came from Portsmouth, (now included in Middletown,) over the Harrisburg and Lancaster Railroad, in the month of September, 1836. It was called the "John Bull," and was an object of great curiosity to the citizens of the borough and vicinity, who congregated by hundreds on the railroad below

Paxton street, to witness its approach. The railroad, at this time, was only completed between Portsmouth and Harrisburg, and the locomotive used on the occasion had been brought to the former place on a canal boat, from the State road at Columbia.

In the month of December following, fifteen miles of the road, extending westward from Lancaster, were completed and opened. Passengers were then taken twice a day in each direction over the finished portion of the road, and over the intervening distance by stages. In the month of October, 1837, the whole line of the road was completed, with the exception of a track through the tunnel at Elizabethtown, which was crossed over by a good board-walk.

The Cumberland Valley railroad was first opened for public travel from a terminus in Cumberland county, opposite Harrisburg, to Carlisle, in July or August, 1837.

#### THE "BUCKSHOT WAR."

The first proceedings of the Legislature which convened at Harrisburg on the 4th of December, 1838, were marked with extraordinary scenes of disorder and confusion, and originated what is commonly called the "Buckshot War."

The Senate met at three o'clock on that day, and organized by electing Hon. C. B. Penrose, Speaker. The Democratic members from the county of Philadelphia were refused their seats, and the opposition members admitted.

Mr. Brown, one of the ejected members, was permitted to address the Senate, after which a motion was made to have the election returns brought forward; pending which the Speaker called Gen. Rogers to the chair which he had vacated, and the session shortly afterwards broke up in confusion.

The House met at nine o'clock on the same day, when the Secretary of the Commonwealth was introduced, who presented the official returns of the members elected to the House of Representatives.

The clerk then read the returns from the city of Philadelphia, and was about proceeding to read the returns from the county of Philadelphia, when Mr. Charles Pray stated, in his place, that this was not the legal return, and presented to the clerk a certified copy of what he alleged to be the correct returns from the Prothonotary's Office of Philadelphia county, and requested it to be read.

The clerk then put the question, "Shall both of the returns be read?" and numerous shouts of "aye," "aye," were echoed throughout the House.

Several members protested against the reading of the latter returns; but the clerk put the question, which was carried, and both of the returns were read.

Mr. Stevens suggested that the House proceed to its organization by electing a Speaker; and when tellers were appointed for that purpose, he expected they would read but the names of those members who had been returned from the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. When this was done, those gentlemen who did not think these returns proper might decline voting. If this course was pursued, and it should so happen that two Speakers were elected, he trusted there would be that courtesy exhibited which would find room for both gentlemen upon the platform. He therefore moved that the House proceed to the election of a Speaker, and that Messrs. Watts and Ziegler be appointed tellers; which motion was declared to be agreed to, and those two gentlemen immediately took a stand at the Speaker's table.

Mr. Hopkins moved that the clerk be instructed to put down the names of the members from the county of Philadelphia who had a majority of votes, and were certified as members of the House by a majority of the return judges.

Mr. T. L. Smith hoped that those who agreed with him in relation to the matter would vote "no" on this question.

The motion of Mr. Hopkins was then agreed to, and the names of the Democratic members were inserted on the roll.



Mr. Hill moved that the clerk of the House call over the roll according to the custom heretofore observed ; which motion was agreed to, and the clerk proceeded to call the roll—the tellers at the same time commencing to call over the names of the members, for the purpose of electing a Speaker.

Before the clerk had concluded the roll, the tellers announced that Thomas S. Cunningham had received 52 votes, and was therefore duly elected.

Mr. Cunningham then took the chair, and called upon Mr. T. L. Smith to administer the oath of office, after which he proceeded to administer the oath to the fifty-two members who had elected him, the remainder of the House keeping their seats, and the clerk still calling the roll, at the conclusion of which he announced that fifty-six members had answered to their names.

Mr. M'Elwee then moved that the House proceed to the election of a Speaker, and that the clerks act as tellers ; which was agreed to. And the clerk having called over the names, announced that William Hopkins, having received 56 votes, was duly elected Speaker.

Mr. M'Elwee conducted Mr. Hopkins to the Speaker's platform, where he obtained a seat beside Mr. Cunningham.

Mr. Hopkins then called upon Mr. Smith, of Franklin, to administer to him the oath of office, and took and subscribed the usual oath.

In the meantime that portion of the House over which Mr. Cunningham presided, adopted the rules of the last House for their government, and appointed committees to wait upon the Governor and the Senate, to inform them that the House was organized and ready to proceed to business, after which it adjourned.

The body over which Mr. Hopkins presided appointed similar committees, and after nominating officers, also adjourned.

Immediately after the occurrence of these extraordinary pro-

ceedings, Gov. Ritner issued the following proclamation. [See Executive Minutes, 1838, page 64, Secretary of the Commonwealth's office.]

*“Pennsylvania, ss.*

In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by Joseph Ritner, Governor of the said Commonwealth :

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, A lawless, infuriated, armed mob from the counties of Philadelphia, Lancaster, Adams, and other places, have assembled at the seat of government, with the avowed object of disturbing, interrupting, and overawing the Legislature of this Commonwealth, and of preventing its proper organization, and the peaceable and free discharge of its duties ;

*And whereas,* The said mob have already, on this day, entered the Senate Chamber, and in an outrageous and violent manner, by clamoring, shouting, and threatening violence and death to some of the members of that body, and other officers of the government; and finally by rushing within the bar of the Senate Chamber, in defiance of every effort to restrain them, compelled the Senate to suspend business ;

*And whereas,* They still remain here in force, encouraged by a person who is an officer of the General Government, from Philadelphia, and are setting the law at open defiance, and rendering it unsafe for the Legislative bodies to assemble in the Capitol ;

THEREFORE, This is to call upon the civil authority to exert themselves to restore order to the utmost of their power, and upon the militia force of the Commonwealth to hold themselves in instant readiness to repair to the seat of government; and upon all good citizens to aid in curbing this lawless mob, and in reinstating the supremacy of the law.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this fourth day of December, in the year [L. S.] of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and of the Commonwealth the sixty-third.

By the Governor :

THOMAS H. BURROWES,  
Secretary of the Commonwealth."

The publication of this document, as may readily be conceived, created the most intense excitement throughout the State; and large numbers of people flocked into the borough daily, attracted by curiosity, or to participate in what many conscientiously believed would terminate in a sanguinary struggle.

A mass meeting of citizens from all sections of the State was held at the Court House on the evening of the 4th December, and a committee of safety, consisting of nineteen prominent men, was appointed.

This committee met on the same evening, when it was informed that there was a body of men stationed in the State Arsenal, and that large quantities of powder, cartridges, and other ammunition, had been taken there since the last evening.

At this moment, Major George Ford, of Lancaster, and Mr. Joseph Henderson entered the room where the committee was assembled, professing to be a committee from the State authorities, and wished to confer with this committee in reference to the protection of the Arsenal, and the public property of the Commonwealth, such as arms, ammunition, &c. They went on to state that the Arsenal had been assailed by a large force of the people, and that great danger was to be apprehended.

The committee informed them that, under existing circumstances, they had no power to allay the excitement; that certain intelligence had been received that Gov. Ritner had issued his orders for the assembling of the militia, which orders were sent last evening by express to Carlisle and other places; and that the people expected Harrisburg would be filled with persons

who would supply themselves with arms and ammunition from the Arsenal; that the people were acting only on the defensive, but that they would not permit the public stores to be employed against themselves in the lawful pursuit of their rights.

Messrs. Ford and Henderson, on the part of themselves and those who sent them, made the following pledge:

"That as men of honor, no ordnance, arms, muskets or ammunition should, by any order of the Governor, or any other authority whatever, be taken from the Arsenal for the purpose of arming any forces that might collect in obedience to the proclamation of the Governor; and that if any use of them should so be made, they would hold themselves personally responsible for the consequences."

This pledge was satisfactory to the committee, who believed that the only object of the people in making a demonstration upon the Arsenal was, not to employ the public arms themselves, but, if possible, to prevent their adversaries from making use of them.

At this time a large multitude had collected around the Arsenal, having been attracted thither by the intelligence that a quantity of ammunition had been taken there, and that their adversaries had stationed in the building a body of armed men as a rendezvous to subdue the people. The excitement had become tremendous, and for the purpose of acting in good faith on the part of the committee, on motion of L. Kidder, it was

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to go and address the people, make known the pledge of Messrs. Ford and Henderson, and urge them quietly to disperse.

Whereupon, L. Kidder, Gen. Adam Diller and Lewis S. Coryell were appointed the said committee, who immediately retired to discharge their duties.

Afterward, the above mentioned committee, by L. Kidder, reported that they had successfully discharged the duties assigned to them, and that they had severally addressed the people, who

manifested every disposition to preserve the peace and to act on the defensive, and that the multitude had already quietly dispersed.

On motion, the report was adopted as entirely satisfactory.

On the 5th of December, the Governor made a special requisition on Major General Robert Patterson, commanding the first division Pennsylvania militia, for a force of troops sufficient to quell the "insurrection," and march them immediately to the seat of government.

About one hundred of the troops arrived on Saturday night following, and obtained quarters in the Court House; and at four o'clock, p. m., the next day, the main body, numbering about eight hundred, under the command of Major General Patterson and staff, arrived below town, and halted until communication could be had with the State authorities, which was effected in about an hour, when the troops entered the town, and after marching through several of the streets, proceeded to the public ground in front of the State Arsenal, where they were divided off into detachments, who severally obtained quarters in the Arsenal, the Exchange, the Court House, the Lancasterian school house, and the Presbyterian Church.

Several other companies from Cumberland county, called out by requisition from the Governor, were quartered on the opposite side of the river, not being able to obtain lodgings in the town.

The Governor also made a requisition on the United States authorities for the troops stationed at the Carlisle barracks and other neighboring military posts, but this was not complied with.

It is estimated that between thirty and fifty thousand strangers were in the borough at this period.

In the meantime, each division of the House of Representatives continued to hold sessions separately; that over which Mr. Hopkins presided in the Representatives Chamber of the Capitol, and the one presided over by Mr. Cunningham in the Su-

preme Court room ; but as neither branch had a constitutional quorum of undisputed members, they were both refused recognition by the Senate.

Affairs stood in this position until December 17, when Messrs. Butler, Sturdevant and Montellius left the Cunningham branch, and were sworn in as members of the Democratic House, under Mr. Speaker Hopkins. This gave to the latter body a quorum of fifty-one members whose seats were undisputed, so that no legal obstacle could longer prevent the Senate from recognising it as the legitimate House.

Accordingly, on the 27th of December, in the Senate, Mr. Michler submitted the following preamble and resolution, which, after various fruitless attempts to amend, were adopted by a vote of 17 yeas and 16 nays :

WHEREAS, Difficulties have arisen in the organization of the House of Representatives, and two bodies have for some time been in existence, each claiming to be the regularly constituted House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, but neither having had a constitutional quorum of members whose seats were regularly returned, and neither has yet been fully recognized by the Senate ;

*And whereas*, The House organized by the election of Mr. Hopkins as Speaker, is now composed of a constitutional quorum of regularly returned members ; and being thus brought within the pale of the constitution, the Senate ought no longer to refuse to recognize the said House as the proper constituted House of Representatives of Pennsylvania ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inform said House that the Senate is now organized and ready to proceed to business.

The committee so appointed immediately waited upon the House, and a joint committee was appointed by both branches to inform the Governor that the Legislature was organized.

At the meeting of the House on the morning of the 27th, Mr. Cunningham, with some twenty of the members of his division, were present and duly qualified.

Mr. Hopkins, the Speaker, then resigned, but was immediately re-elected.

The troops from Philadelphia evacuated the borough on Sunday, the 16th of December, and the battalion from Cumberland county on the 23d following.

The following is "a list of the ordnance stores issued to the Philadelphia troops from the Frankford Arsenal, on requisition of the Governor:

"12,480 musket-ball and buck-shot cartridges; 600 pistol catridges; 400 priming tubes; 68 6-pounder strapped shot, fixed; 132 6-pounder cannon balls; 200 musket flints; 100 pistol flints; 20 pounds slow match.

GEO. D. RAMSEY, Capt. of Ord.

Frankford Arsenal, Dec. 7, 1838."

#### GREAT FIRES IN 1838.

Two destructive fires occurred in the borough in the summer and fall of 1838. The first was on Friday, the 20th of July, which broke out in a stable belonging to Mr. Osler, very near to, and on the line of the wind from the iron foundry of Mr. Graydon, on Fourth street, between Walnut and Market. It was generally believed that a spark from the foundry originated the fire. The weather at the time was hot, and everything being dry, the flames spread rapidly to several adjoining stables, and from thence to an extensive lumber yard on Fourth street, between Market street and Strawberry alley, and several houses on Market street and Huckleberry alley, nearly all of which were entirely consumed. The wind was brisk, and but little water could be obtained from the pumps, so that fears were entertained that the entire blocks of buildings from Fourth street to the canal, between Market street and Strawberry alley, would

be destroyed by the devouring element. The flames, however, were checked at Huckleberry alley by the fire companies, aided by the citizens, male and female, many of which latter stood in the ranks passing water with buckets for four hours, exposed to the heat of the flames and a fervid sun. The estimated loss of the property destroyed on this occasion was about \$15,000, divided among twenty-five individuals. The entire insurance amounted to only \$2,000.

A meeting of the citizens was held after the fire, and committees appointed to solicit subscriptions for the sufferers. This meeting also petitioned the Town Council to provide the Citizen Fire Company with suitable hose, as there seemed to be a great want of this material at the fire.

The second fire broke out about five o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday, the 20th of October, in the carpenter shop of Messrs. Holman & Simon, in Market street, near Fourth, and directly opposite to where their extensive lumber yard was consumed at the previous fire. The flames communicated to the dwelling house of Mr. Simon, another (only partially burned,) owned by Mrs. Shannon, a grocery store of Mr. Hutton, (pulled down,) the Lutheran Church, and a school house and lecture room standing near it. The cost of the property destroyed was about \$22,000, most of which was insured.

#### GREAT FLOOD IN THE SUSQUEHANNA.

In the spring of 1846 the water in the Susquehanna rose to an extent scarcely excelled by the disastrous freshets of 1784 and 1786. The water upon this occasion carried away the eastern end of the old Harrisburg bridge, and four spans of the eastern end of the Cumberland Valley Railroad bridge, then in progress of construction, in place of the one previously destroyed by fire. All of the piers of this latter bridge, and those of the eastern end of the former bridge, were more or less swept away

---



by the violence of the water. Paxton street, and the low ground lying on the east side of the town between the canal and the ridge, were completely overflowed, and several inhabitants of houses located in that section were rescued from drowning with great difficulty. The engine and boiler rooms of the Water-house were completely submerged, and the machinery therein considerably damaged. The cellars of houses situated in the town below Washington avenue, were in a like condition. Houses, bridges, fences, hay, hogs, cattle, sheep, &c., were carried down the river, all combining to present a scene of destruction never previously witnessed by the then "oldest inhabitant."

#### THE MEXICAN WAR.

The requisition of the President of the United States on the Governor of Pennsylvania for Volunteers to serve in the War with Mexico, met with a ready response from the citizens of Harrisburg.

A company, composed of nearly 100 members, styled the "Cameron Guards," in honor of Gen. Simon Cameron, was enrolled on the 26th of December, 1846. This company was under the command of Capt. E. C. Williams, and was mustered into the United States service at Pittsburg, to serve "during the war," by Lieut. Fields, of the U. S. Army, on the 2d day of January, 1847.

#### MUSTER ROLL OF THE CAMERON GUARDS.

We annex a table containing a roll of the members' names, the place of their nativity and residence, their occupation, with remarks, &c. It is taken from the original roll of the company, in possession of Capt. Williams. Those of whom no mention is made in the column of "remarks," served "during the war," and were honorably discharged at Pittsburg.

MUSTER AND DESCRIPTIVE ROLL OF CAPT. EDWARD C. WILLIAMS' COMPANY, (G.) SECOND REGIMENT, PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.

Names.	Rank.	Age.	Height.	Where born.	Occupation.	Remarks.
Edward C. Williams,	Captain.	27	5 9½	Philadelphia,	Bookbinder,	
Peter H. McWilliams,	1st Lieut.	25	5 11	Harrisburg,	Printer,	
David J. Unger,	2d do.	24	5 8	Dauphin county,	Merchant,	
Isaac S. Waterbury,	3d do.	27	5 8	New York city,	Tailor,	
Henry A. Hambright,	1st Sergt.	26	6 2	Lancaster city,	Contractor,	Promoted 1st Lieut. company H, Aug. 12, 1847, by order of Gen. Quitman.
James Elder,	Sergeant.	21	5 10½	Harrisburg,	Gentleman,	Promoted 2d Lieut. 11th Infantry, April 16, 1847, by President of United States.
William G. Murray,	do.	22	5 11½	Harrisburg,	Merchant,	Do.
John Fleck,	do.	29	5 8½	Harrisburg,	Plasterer,	Disch. from hospital, Vera Cruz, April 21, 1847.
John Simons,	do.	31	6 4½	Bedford,	Teamster,	Transf. to N. Y. regt. (since dead) Oct. 31, 1847.
Thomas R. Jordan,	do.	23	6 1½	Lancaster city,	Carpenter,	Disch. from hospital, Puebla, Nov. 6, 1847.
Wm. H. P. Derry,	do.	27	5 6	Wilmington, Del.	Boat builder,	
George Bressler,	do.	23	5 10	Dauphin,	Mill wright,	
Samuel Simons,	Drummer	28	5 10	Perry county,	Blacksmith,	
George Simons,	Fifer.	22	5 7½	Perry county,	Blacksmith,	Promoted to Drum Major, Nov. 12, 1847.
Auchmudy, Samuel S.	Private.	22	5 7½	Northumberland co.	Carpenter,	
Auchmudy, Shipman,	do.	24	5 11	Northumberland co.	Tailor,	Promoted to rank of Sergeant, Feb. 26, 1848.
Albert John,	do.	20	5 5½	Middletown,	Tailor,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Alexander, William,	do.	22	5 6	Montreal, Canada,	Puddler,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Brown, Alexander,	do.	21	5 11	Bolton, England,	Carpenter,	Disch. from hospital, Perote, July 3, 1847, about half an hour after he received a Lieutenant's commission in the regular army.
Bowman, George,	do.	29	5 11½	Lancaster city,	Printer,	Killed at city of Mexico, October 12, 1847.
Brus, Jacob,	do.	38	5 7	Harrisburg,		
Boden, Hugh,	do.	26	5 8	Perry county,	Carpenter,	
Balmer, Jacob,	do.	19	5 7	Cumberland county,	Blacksmith,	
Bobet, George,	do.	22	5 6	Germany,	Laborer,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Bolton, William,	do.	29	5 7	Harrisburg,	Blacksmith,	Killed at Garreta de Belina, Sept. 13, 1847.
Crooks, Clark B.,	do.	20	6	Westmoreland,	Printer,	
Congrove, James,	do.	23	5 9½	Lancaster city,	Laborer,	
Cowbick, Daniel,	do.	30	5 10	Perry county,	Farmer,	Disch. from hospital for wounds received in storming Chapultepec, December 7, 1847.
Glendelin, Thomas,	do.	21	5 8	Dauphin,	Carpenter,	Killed at city of Mexico, December 16, 1847.
Craft, Levi,	do.	34	5 6	Lancaster city,	Coppersmith,	

Colton, Robert,	do.	20	5	9½	New Brunswick, N. J.	Shoemaker,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Cromleigh, David,	do.	20	5	9	Cumberland county,	Merchant,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Dady, Joseph,	do.	28	5	9	Dauphin county,	Stone mason,	Sent home on account of health, October 28, 1847; since dead.
Dannison, Bartlett,	do.	28	5	9	Bedford county,	Clerk,	Died in hospital, Mexico, October 23, 1847.
Detrich, George,	do.	38	5	8	Germany,	Farmer,	Died in hospital, Vera Cruz, April 28, 1847.
Davis, Henry,	do.	20	5	7	Harrisburg,	Butcher,	Promoted to Orderly Sergeant.
Evans, Lewis,	do.	24	6	0	Harper's Ferry, Va.	Blacksmith,	Died in hospital, Puebla, September 9, 1847.
Farley, James A.	do.	23	5	6½	Smithstown, Md.	Blacksmith,	Disch. on Surgeon's certificate of pension, at San Angel, February 28, 1848.
Foster, Weldman,	do.	21	6	2¼	Harrisburg,	Carpenter,	Promoted 2d Lieut. 11th Infantry, April 15, 1847, by President of United States.
Glasbury, Lewis,	do.	29	5	10	Philadelphia,	Blacksmith,	Disch. on Surgeon's certificate of disability, April 10, 1847.
Griffith, Robert,	do.	21	5	8	Philadelphia,	Farmer,	Sent home on account of health, Oct. 28, 1847.
Grimes, James,	do.	33	5	7	Philadelphia,	Physician,	Promoted Assistant Surgeon in regular army.
Gould, James,	do.	30	5	8	Carlisle,	Shoemaker,	Sent home on account of health, Oct. 28, 1847.
Hester, Frederick,	do.	24	5	7	Carlisle, Germany,	Farmer,	
Hovis, John D.	do.	23	5	9½	Harrisburg,	Printer,	
Irvine, Matthew T.	do.	29	5	6½	Franklin county,	Shoemaker,	
Irvine, Samuel C.	do.	21	5	6	Franklin county,	Farmer,	
Klatz, William,	do.	33	5	10	Lancaster city,	Laborer,	Disch. at hospital, Puebla, Nov. 5, 1849. Killed on his return home.
Klinger, John,	do.	19	5	1	Lancaster county,	Butcher,	Died in hospital, Puebla, July 21, 1847.
Kerr, John,	do.	29	5	7½	Dauphin county,	Distiller,	
Kerr, Lewis,	do.	21	5	7	Philadelphia,	Hatter,	Died in hospital, city of Mexico, Oct. 10, 1847.
Kaufman, Franklin,	do.	28	5	9½	Lancaster city,	Carpenter,	
Lakens, William,	do.	18	5	7	Dauphin county,	Laborer,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Locke, Charles,	do.	29	5	7½	New York city,	Shoemaker,	
Loth, Christian,	do.	31	6	0	Carlisle,	Butcher,	Promoted 2d Lieut. company H, Nov. 12, 1847, by order of Gen. Scott.
McInt, Chambers C.	do.	22	5	10	Cumberland county,	Brewer,	
Miller, George R.	do.	21	5	6½	Lebanon,	Stone cutter,	Died in hospital, city of Mexico, of wounds received at the storming of Chapultepec. Died October 28, 1847.
Myers, Jacob,	do.	23	5	8	Warrumburg, Germ.	Coper,	Disch. from hospital, city Mexico, Dec. 7, 1847, on account of wounds rec'd at taking of city.
Moyer, Jacob,	do.	22	5	8	Harrisburg,	Turner,	Died on march, at San Angel, Sept. 7, 1847.
Moyers, Emanuel,	do.	20	5	9½	Millersburg,	Laborer,	
Mosey, Charles,	do.	20	5	0	Manayunk,	Puddler,	
Moy, Jacob,	do.	26	5	0	Germany,	Laborer,	
Novinger, George,	do.	27	5	11¾	Millersburg,	Farmer,	

MUSTER AND DESCRIPTIVE ROLL—Continued.

Names.	Rank.	Age.	Height.	Where born.	Occupation.	Remarks.
Novinger, Hiram,	Private.	20	5 11	Dauphin county,	Farmer,	
Powers, John,	do.	30	5 4	Lancaster city,	Boatman,	Died on the march, at Berques, July 3, 1847.
Palmer, Joseph,	do.	19	5 5	Chenung, N. Y.	Shoemaker,	
Patrick, John,	do.	21	5 7 1/2	Lancaster city,	Laborer,	
Reids, Simon,	do.	20	5 10	Centre county,	Printer,	Disch. from hospital, Vera Cruz, April 21, 1847.
Rock, David H.	do.	23	5 7	Philadelphia,	Printer,	
Rees, David,	do.	19	5 8 1/2	Lancaster city,	Moulder,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Rees, William,	do.	19	5 9	Centre county,	Printer,	Deserted at New Orleans, January 27, 1847.
Rees, James J.	do.	18	5 8	Harrisburg,	Barber,	
Reed, Esau,	do.	22	5 6	New York,	Blacksmith,	
Roller, Samuel	do.	21	5 7	York county,	Carpenter,	Disch. at city of Mexico, for wounds received at the taking of the city.
Rodgers, Robert A.	do.	24	5 10	Cumberland county,	Brickmaker,	Died in hospital, Puebla, July 21, 1847.
Reigutier, Henry,	do.	21	5 11	Carlisle,	Printer,	
Shaw, James,	do.	19	5 7	Centre county,	Shoemaker,	
Shoemaker, John,	do.	30	5 5	Soyestown,	Printer,	
Spayd, Christian R.	do.	16	5 5	Middleton,	Miller,	Died in the city of Mexico.
Spong, John,	do.	22	5 7 1/2	York county,	Farmer,	
Snyder, Jacob,	do.	23	5 6	Hannastown,	Bricklayer,	Died in hospital, Puebla, August 17, 1847.
Snyder, Jeremiah,	do.	23	5 6	Pennsylvania,	Boatman,	
Saun, Frederick,	do.	23	5 6	Lancaster city,	Contractor,	Disch. from hospital, Vera Cruz, April 13, 1847.
Stantz, Henry,	do.	30	5 7	Harrisburg,	School teacher,	Disch. from hospital, Jalapa, May 19, 1847. Promoted Lieut. in regular army; since Captain.
Trexler, Michael P.	do.	27	5 5	Shippensburg,	Shoemaker,	Disch. from hospital, Puebla, March 7, 1848.
Underwood, Edward,	do.	19	5 6 3/4	Carlisle,	Bricklayer,	Died in hospital, Puebla, August 5, 1847.
Unger, Franklin,	do.	22	5 10 1/2	Lancaster county,	Stone mason,	
Wolf, Samuel,	do.	30	5 11 1/2	Lancaster city,	Laborer,	Disch. from hospital, city Mexico, Mar. 4, 1848.
Wissner, George,	do.	22	5 8 1/2	Cumberland county,	Law student,	Disch. from hospital, Jalapa, June 1, 1847.
Wills, William,	do.	19	5 7	Ireland,	Contractor,	Died in hospital, Puebla, November 9, 1847.
Wood, Patrick,	do.	21	5 6	Harrisburg,	Carpenter,	Died in hospital, city of Mexico, Oct. 12, 1847.
Wood, Henry B.	do.	33	5 13	York county,	Contractor,	Transferred from N. Y. regt. Oct. 31, 1847.
Washbaugh, Lewis,	do.	23	5 8	Franklin county,	Stone cutter,	Joined from General Depot, April 17, 1848.
Hagan, James P.	do.	29	5 8	Yrout,	Printer,	Recruited at San Angel, April 27, 1848.
Henry Miller,	do.			Carlisle,		
Fuchalski Eugene,	do.		5 11 1/2			

## RETURN OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

The remnant of the "Guards" returned to town in July, 1848, and were welcomed with every demonstration of joy and delight by our citizens.

The company was met at the foot of Market street by the citizens and military, who, after escorting it through the principal streets of the borough, amid the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon, repaired to the public grounds in the rear of the State Capitol, where the survivors were publicly welcomed by Edward A. Lesley, Esq., on behalf of the citizens, in a beautiful speech, replete with patriotic allusions.

The entire multitude then sat down to an elegant and plentiful repast, which had been provided for the occasion, free of all expense.

It is believed that there are not now living more than fifteen members of this company.

## EXECUTION OF CONVICTS AT HARRISBURG.

We give an account of all the executions at Harrisburg of persons convicted of murder, since the establishment of Dauphin county :

*Execution of John Hauer and Charles M' Manus.*

The first persons who suffered capital punishment, by hanging, in Harrisburg, after the erection of Dauphin county, were Charles M' Manus and John Hauer, or Hoar, as pronounced by some.

These unhappy men, with Francis Cox, Patrick Donagan, Elizabeth Hauer, and two others, were confined in the prison of Dauphin county, for the wilful murder of Francis Shitz, in Heidelberg township, (now forming part of Berks county,) on the night of the 28th of December, 1797.

Francis Shitz, with his brother, Peter Shitz, had been at a vendue, and returned home in the evening greatly fatigued. The former laid himself on a bench near the stove to rest, while the latter retired to bed in an adjoining apartment. They had not been long in this tranquility before a female of the house discovered a light in the kitchen, and opening the door, was frightened at the appearance of several men, and immediately endeavored to awaken Francis Shitz; but she had only in part effected her purpose, when one of the assassins presented a pistol at his head, which he discharged, and killed him on the spot. In the meantime two others proceeded to the bed room of the brother, Peter Shitz, with axes, and at the first stroke which one of them made, his axe caught the cord of the curtain, which in some measure stopped the force of the blow. He was, however, very much cut on the shoulder, which caused him to leap from the bed to the floor, and to have the presence of mind to seize a chair, with which he knocked them both down; but in leaving the room he received another deep wound on his posterior, which did not prevent him, however, from locking the door and escaping out of a window, and retreating to a barn, where he placed himself in a narrow passage, armed with a pitchfork; but after waiting a considerable time, and finding the murderers had gone, he repaired immediately to Shaefferstown and gave the alarm, and by the vigilance of the inhabitants the assassins were arrested. Peter Shitz was only seventeen years old. The motive which led to the deed was thought to have originated with John Hauer, brother-in-law to the deceased, who expected to fall heir to a considerable estate had he accomplished his wicked purpose.

The grand jury, at the June term of Court, 1798, found true bills of indictment against Charles M'Manus and Peter M'Donogh as principals, and John Hauer, Elizabeth his wife, Patrick Donagan, Francis Cox and Hugh M'Donough as accessories before the fact.

On Wednesday, the 13th of June, 1798, Charles M'Manus was brought to his trial first, which continued nearly eight hours, when he was convicted, upon the fullest evidence, of murder in the first degree.

On the Friday following, a jury was sworn for the trial of John Hauer, Patrick Donagan, and Francis Cox, which trial continued until *Sunday* evening at half-past seven o'clock, when the jury, after having been out three and a half hours, returned with a verdict of guilty against John Hauer, but not guilty against Donagan and Cox.

M'Manus and Hauer were sentenced by Judge Henry, at 10 o'clock next day.

The "Oracle of Dauphin," of July 18, 1798, speaks of the execution as follows :

"On Saturday, the 14th inst., were executed on the public ground, [between the State Arsenal and Surveyor General's Office,] John Hauer and Charles M'Manus, in pursuance of their sentence, for the murder of Francis Shitz. The deportment of Hauer was much more decent and composed than was expected from his conduct since his trial and condemnation. Whether his dumbness was real or affected, he was at least consistent, and sustained the concluding scene without uttering a syllable.

"M'Manus, in his last moments, confirmed the testimony he had given to the grand jury, viz : 'That he was not in the house, or present at the murder, but that he held a horse at the end of the lane, in order to aid the escape of the perpetrators, who were Hauer and Hugh M'Donough. He appeared with the same manly and even cheerful resignation which he had invariably preserved during his trial and imprisonment, and which, added to his youth, had, notwithstanding the atrocity of his crime, procured him no inconsiderable degree of public sympathy and favor."

After the execution, "Henry Orth, High Sheriff of Dauphin

county," published a card returning "his thanks to the inhabitants of the borough, and particularly to the officers of the several corps of volunteers and militia, for their indefatigable care in guarding the public jail for many months past, *and for their attendance* and good order on the day of the execution of the two late unhappy criminals."

The "guarding the public jail" alluded to by the Sheriff, was rendered necessary in consequence of several attempts having been made by the prisoners to escape.

The "Oracle," of January 31st, 1798, states, "there never was, since the prison has been built, a greater number of criminals in it.

"Last Friday night an attempt was made to burn the jail in this town, supposed by some of the criminals; but after the fire had penetrated through the floor, and the coals dropping on one confined in the dungeon below, who finding his situation rather critical, was obliged to give the alarm, when the fire was in a short time extinguished.

"Much praise is due to Captains Henry, Connolly, and Berryhill, and the gentlemen belonging to their military companies, who voluntarily form a sufficient guard every night to prevent the prisoners from having any opportunity to escape."

*Execution of James M'Gowen and James Jamison.*

James M'Gowen and James Jamison were tried and convicted by the court of Dauphin county, for the murder of Jacob Eshleman. Monday, the 6th day of December, 1806, was the day fixed for their execution, at Harrisburg. Jamison, however, before that period, effected his escape from durance, and M'Gowen was, consequently, the only one who suffered the extreme penalty of the law on the appointed day.

Although the day was excessively cold, a large number of both sexes assembled at an early hour about the jail, with a view to catch a sight of the unhappy culprit. About 12 o'clock the



culprit was brought out of the prison, when a lane was formed by the several militia companies which attended on the occasion; through this opening he marched with much firmness, behind the cart which contained his coffin, to the gallows on the public grounds, near the Arsenal. Here he expressed a desire to address the spectators, and begged a little liquor to exhilarate his spirits; as he was thinly clad, and the weather intensely cold, some of the gentlemen on duty offered him a bottle, containing about half a pint, to taste; this he took, and before any interference could be made, he drained it to the last drop. The effect of this rather changed the tragedy to a farce. He became enraged with the executioner, tore off part of the mask the latter had put on to conceal himself, and even knocked him down from the cart. Indeed, such was his behavior in these, his last moments, that it in a great degree eradicated that compassion which many felt for him during his confinement. He was launched into eternity precisely at 1 o'clock P. M.

Jamison was subsequently arrested near Reading, brought to Harrisburg, and likewise publicly executed on the public ground, near the Arsenal.

#### *Execution of James London.*

James London, a free man of color, was tried and convicted before the Court of Oyer and Terminer of Dauphin county, in June, 1818, for the murder of his wife.

The deceased and prisoner lived in Harrisburg, near the African Church, which formerly stood at the foot of Mulberry street. On the morning of Sunday, the 1st of March, 1818, they were seen at home, sober, friendly, and rather playful. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon he had been abroad and returned. He asked her for victuals—was displeased with what had been prepared, and threw it, with some other articles, into the street. An altercation took place between them; he threatened her destruction, and she went for a constable. In the

meantime he was seen to charge a musket, and upon her return, after near an hour's absence, and before she had entered the door, he met her, and discharged the contents of the musket into her head. The report of the musket immediately drew together a considerable number of persons, to whom he stated that he had killed his wife, and he must hang for it. This he several times repeated on his way to, and before a magistrate. There was no evidence that he had drank any intoxicating liquor that day, although he was addicted to it.

Messrs. Irvin, Foster, F. R. Shunk, and Roberts, counsel for the prisoner, made eloquent appeals to the feelings of the jury before whom the defendant was tried, admitting that the prisoner was guilty of murder in the second degree, but insisted that he was under the influence of intoxication at the time; and therefore the killing could not have been, in the language of the act of 1794, "willful, deliberate, and premeditated."

Mr. Ellmaker was the Attorney General on the occasion of the trial, and Judge Scott presided.

The jury retired about 6 o'clock P. M., and at 8 o'clock next morning came into court, and gave in a verdict of "guilty of murder in the first degree."

The prisoner was sentenced on the 1st of July, 1818, and hung on the 8th of August following, between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock.

London died truly penitent; and on the scaffold, a few minutes before he was launched into eternity, it is said that, in reply to a remark of a lawyer at his side, he said, "Sir, *I would not now exchange situations with you.*"

The gallows upon which he was hung was erected in Second street, above State street.

#### *Execution of Benjamin Stewart.*

On Wednesday, February 6, 1824, between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock P. M., was hung, at Harrisburg, Benjamin Stew-

art, a colored man, convicted of the murder of Ann Oberholzer. He persisted to the last in denying that he had any intention of killing Mrs. Oberholzer, but freely confessed that he had been the cause of her death, in attempting to commit a rape on her person, and seemed fully satisfied with the justice of his doom.

On the Monday preceding his execution, his coffin was brought into his room, at his own request, and with this memorial of his death before him, in the presence of a number of individuals, and the ministers of the place, the Rev. Dr. Lochman, Sr., administered to him the solemn ordinances of baptism. On Tuesday night, the prisoner was dressed in his shroud and cap, at his own request, and in these habiliments of death he partook, with the clergymen of the place and other pious citizens, of the Sacrament of the Supper.

On Wednesday, he was led to the place of execution, in the centre of State street, a short distance below Second, accompanied by the military, the sheriff, (Gleim,) and the clergy. When he first came out of the prison his mind appeared oppressed, and the tears flowed freely from his eyes; he soon, however, recovered, and walked with firmness to the gallows; there, after two hymns had been sung, a prayer offered up, and two short addresses delivered, he ascended the scaffold, when a prayer was offered up for him, which he followed with a prayer for himself. The 51st Psalm was then sung, and just as the concluding lines of the 6th verse were sung, the trap-door on which he stood fell, and the prisoner was launched into eternity. On this occasion, the prisoner and the audience, which was very numerous, were spared the disgusting sight of a painted and disguised hangman, the sheriff performing this duty himself. This was the last public execution in Harrisburg.

*Execution of Courtland Charles Johnson.*

Courtland Charles Johnson, a boatman by profession, residing near Middletown, in this county, was arrested and confined in

prison, in the month of August, 1853, charged with the murder of his wife, Priscilla, and her alleged paramour, one Nathaniel P. Colyer.

At the November session, 1853, he was arraigned and tried for the murder of his wife, and the jury returned a verdict of murder in the second degree.

At the April session of 1854, he was arraigned and tried for the murder of Colyer, when the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree. His attorneys made a motion for a new trial, which, however, was overruled by the court, and the unfortunate prisoner received his sentence.

The warrant for his execution was issued on the 8th of June, 1854.

A short time previous to his execution, he confided to the Rev. J. Mackey, one of his spiritual advisers, a confession of his crime, which was subsequently published, and from which we make the following extract, which explains the mode by which the murder was committed.

After stating that the boat upon which he was employed had returned to Portsmouth, in this county, and that he had left the same at dark, to go and see his wife, who resided on the opposite side of the Swatara creek, he was informed, on his way, of her bad conduct, he continues: "But I had often heard such reports before, and was very certain they were too well grounded. Still I don't know that I was much moved by the story I now heard. Passing on I arrived at the board fence which surrounded the shed dwelling where she lived. On approaching the place, I thought I heard some persons conversing in a low tone of voice, and on coming nearer it appeared to me I recognized the voice of Priscilla. Now suspicion at once seized me, and creeping up quietly to the fence, and unobserved, I discovered my wife in the lot, on the ground with some man whom I did not know, and which afterwards proved to be Nathaniel P. Colyer.

"Remaining in this position long enough to satisfy me of their criminal connection, I raised myself up, which they discovered. They immediately rose up and passed hastily round the house into rather a dark and shady spot, for I think, if I mistake not, the moon shone or else the stars very brightly.— Discovering the direction they took I passed round the house the opposite way, which I think they did not know, nor do I think they yet knew who I was. Wrought up to the highest pitch of rage and jealousy, and being somewhat under the influence of liquor, for I had been drinking freely all the day, I now laid hold of my revolver. On turning the corner of the house my wife turned suddenly around, hearing my footsteps. We stood face to face, within a few paces of each other. I said, I have caught you now, raised the deadly weapon and discharged its contents, aiming for her breast. She dropped upon her knees and cried out, 'My God, Johnson, you have shot me!' and in a short time sunk over in the agonies of death. Where Colyer was precisely at this time I do not now distinctly recollect, nor the distance he was from me. It is said I fired another shot at some one, which, if I did, (for I was all confused,) it may have been at Colyer, as the evidence shows he received the ball in the spine."

The day appointed for the execution of the prisoner was on the 25th of August, 1854. On the morning of that day he was busily engaged perusing the 14th chapter of St. John, in the New Testament, which was his favorite study.

About twelve o'clock the jury, selected by the Sheriff, the physicians, Drs. Bombaugh, Seiler, Roberts, and Rutherford, with the members of the press and clergy, were admitted into the prison; while the latter proceeded to the cell of the prisoner and engaged in devotional exercises.

At twenty-five minutes before one o'clock the cell was vacated by the clergy and the Sheriff entered with a white shroud, and proceeded to array him therein. The prisoner, led by the

Sheriff, soon appeared in the vestibule of the prison, when a procession was formed, and the entire body marched to the scaffold, which had been erected the day previous, in the yard, at the rear of the building. When the procession reached the scaffold, the prisoner mounted with a firm step, followed by his spiritual advisers, the Rev. Messrs. A. Cookman, of the Methodist Episcopal; Colder and Mackey, of the Bethel; and Holmes, of the United Brethren Church. The Rev. Mr. Mackey, after a few remarks, gave out the hymn of "Jesus the Lord of my soul," which was sung by the congregation. A fervent and impressive prayer was then delivered by the Rev. A. Cookman. After which each of the clergy embraced the prisoner, and descended the scaffold. Sheriff Williams then adjusted the cap and rope, and after taking a fervent leave of him, descended, and precisely three minutes before one o'clock P. M., pulled the bolt of the drop which launched the prisoner into eternity. He appeared to die without the least struggle, and his pulse ceased to beat when he had only been suspended four and one-half minutes.

The last sentence spoken by the prisoner was "Lord Jesus, receive my soul—" which hung on his lips when the drop fell. He remained suspended for thirty minutes, when he was pronounced dead by the physicians and cut down by the Sheriff, who had his remains placed in a coffin prepared for interment.

#### *Execution of William Williams.*

William Williams, a coal miner by profession, at the November sessions, 1857, of the Dauphin county court, was tried for the murder of Daniel Hendricks, near Lykenstown, in this county, by shooting him with a gun. The warrant for his execution was issued by the Governor on the 1st of March, 1858, and it fixed Friday, the 21st day of May, 1858, for the time of said execution.

A little before twelve o'clock on the morning of said day, the

culprit, accompanied by Sheriff Jacob Eyster, Revs. Marquet, Martz and Bartine; the jury, Deputy Sheriff, and other persons who had been permitted to witness the execution, left the prison, and marched in procession to the scaffold, which was the same as that used for the execution of Johnson, and placed in the same position. Here, the prisoner ascended the scaffold, with the Sheriff, followed by Revs. Bartine and Martz. After a solemn prayer by the former clergyman, an appropriate hymn was sang. His spiritual advisers then took an affectionate leave of him and descended from the scaffold, when the Sheriff proceeded to adjust the rope, and placed the cap over the prisoner's head and face; after which he likewise descended from the gallows, and proceeding to the rear thereof, touched the spring, which caused the drop to fall, and the unfortunate culprit was launched into eternity.

This was the last execution that occurred in our county. A death-warrant, for the execution of an Irishman named Simon Green, had been issued on the 26th of October, 1856; but about *one hour* previous to the time fixed for his execution, he was respited by the Governor to a fixed day, which was subsequently extended without date; and he still continues an inmate of the county prison.

#### CONCLUSION.

This concludes our record of the most striking events that have transpired in our borough, from the period of its first settlement, to the present day. Many interesting incidents, however, connected with the early history of the town, will, for want of proper dates, be found in the appendix.

## HARRISBURG AT PRESENT.

---

Harrisburg, a post town, borough, seat of justice of Dauphin county, and capital of Pennsylvania, is situated on the east, or left bank of the Susquehanna river, one hundred and six miles from Philadelphia, thirty-eight from Lancaster, one hundred and twenty-one from Washington city, and two hundred and forty-eight from Pittsburg, computed by railroad. It is situated in latitude  $40^{\circ} 16'$  north; longitude  $0^{\circ} 5' 30''$  east, from Washington, or  $76^{\circ} 50'$  west, from Greenwich, England. The eastern part of the site of the town is a gently swelling hill or high bank, between the river and Paxton creek, which, technically speaking, is a superficial deposite, consisting of *diluvium* and *alluvium*, whose antiquity may be dated with that geological epoch which witnessed the production of the "Eratitic block, or Boulder group formation." Its composition is chiefly a ferro-argillaceous clay, with beds of silicious sand and gravel arranged in parallel strata, and extending to an average depth of about thirty feet, to the blue limestone formation which occupies the bed of the river.

The following streets and alleys run parallel with the river, and are given, beginning at the river, in their regular order to the canal:

### *Below Paxton Street.*

Water street,

Shower alley,

Race street.

### *Above Paxton Street.*

Front street,

Raspberry alley,

River alley,

Third street,

Second street,

Dewberry alley,



Fourth street,	Filbert street,
Huckelberry alley,	Poplar lane,
Fifth street,	West avenue,
Sixth street,	East avenue,
High street,	Hasel alley,
Farmer's alley,	Washington street,
West alley,	Cedar alley,
Short street,	Commerce street,
Spruce street,	Canal street,
East alley,	Meadow lane.

The streets and alleys named above are intersected, or crossed, at right angles, by the following :

Nagle street,	Barbara alley,
Reilly street,	South street,
Paxton street,	West State street,
Vine street,	Liberty alley.
Washington avenue,	<b>EAST OF STATE CAPITOL.</b>
Mary's alley,	Cranberry alley,
Mulberry street,	Short street,
Cherry alley,	South alley,
Chestnut street,	East State street,
Blackberry alley,	North alley,
Market street,	Dauphin street.
Strawberry alley,	<b>NORTH OF STATE CAPITOL.</b>
Walnut street,	North street,
<b>WEST OF STATE CAPITOL.</b>	North avenue,
Locust street,	Primrose alley,
Cranberry alley,	Astor alley,
Pine street,	York street,

Partridge alley.

There are a number of other streets, lanes and alleys, recently made in the suburban parts of the borough, which have not yet received names.

"Market Square" is located in Second street, between Strawberry and Blackberry alleys, both of which communicate with it, and is bisected by Market street. Two capacious market houses occupy its centre—one on each side of Market street.

The population of the town in the year 1800 was 1,472; in 1810, 2,287; in 1820, 2,990; in 1830, 4,311; in 1840, 6,020; in 1845, 6,193; in 1850, 7,834; of which 3,456 were females, 3,468 were males, and 910 were colored people; in 1854, 12,400, and at the present time about 16,000.

According to the Mercantile Appraiser's return for 1858, there are twenty-two dry-goods stores in the borough, six of which pay an annual license of \$7; seven, \$10; three, \$12.50; one, \$15; and five \$20;—and forty-four grocery stores, twenty-nine of which pay an annual license of \$7; twelve, \$10; one, \$12.50; and two, \$20; and one hundred and four miscellaneous mercantile establishments, seventy-two of which pay an annual license of \$7; twenty-three, \$10; six, \$12.50; one, \$15; one, \$20, and one, \$25. Three billiard tables and two ten-pin alleys, the former paying \$50 and the latter \$40 license; five breweries, three of which pay \$25, and two \$16 license; a bill and exchange broker paying \$60 license; twenty-three oyster and eating houses, two of which pay \$10 license; twelve, \$12, and one \$20. Twenty-nine taverns, of which nine are of the first class. Since these returns a large number of additional licenses for beer and eating houses have been taken out.

Harrisburg is now a thriving and prosperous town; and, from present indications, bids fair to surpass in the race of progress any inland town in the State. The large amount of capital held by many of its citizens, has within a few past years been put into active circulation; and as a natural consequence the spirit of industry has received a powerful impetus. Important enterprises have been put on foot and properly sustained; and whilst these have served to impart a busy, bustling appearance to the place, they have also been the means of adding to our material wealth, as well as to increase our population. The products of the various manufactories have acquired an enviable reputation; and, we are pleased to learn, meet with rapid sales in the markets to which they are shipped. The works of the

Harrisburg Car Factory, the foundries of Messrs. Bay and Jennings, the Novelty and Keystone Iron Works, the furnaces of Messrs. Porter and M'Cormick, the machine shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the rolling mills of Messrs. Pratt & Son and Messrs. Bailey & Brother, and the Cotton Factory, afford regular employment to hundreds of operatives, each of whom contributes much to the development of the resources of the town. Such a large, thrifty and intelligent body of men in our midst necessarily required an extension of the limits of the borough in order to supply them with the conveniences of life. The swelling tide of population naturally sought an outlet in the suburbs. Where a few short years ago the forest flourished; or the plough sped, we now see neat, tidy and comfortable houses dotting the scene. For the most part they are owned by the humble mechanic. The sagacity of the shrewd speculator saw to what great advantages the demand for "more room" might be turned. He laid out lots suitable in size for the erection of a respectable home, and made the terms so easy that the indigent could purchase with the least exercise of economy. He thus not only benefitted himself in a pecuniary point, but presented decided inducements to the poor to secure for themselves a homestead. The villages of West Harrisburg, Paxton and Parkville, on the north and west, and that of Prospect on the ridge east of the borough limits, testify to the wisdom of the capitalist as well as to the wisdom of the purchasers. The one increased his store of dollars and the other obtained a home, whilst both promoted the improvement, progress and beauty of our town.

The situation of Harrisburg is delightful. It stands on an eminence which commands a beautiful view of the Susquehanna and the surrounding mountains. The salubrity of its climate is such that no epidemic has ever been known to decimate its inhabitants. The scenery around it would extort praise from the lover of nature, and give inspiration to the pencil of a Claude.

Travelers from other lands have been known to stand in raptures gazing on the gorgeous panorama of shifting clouds, tinged with every variety of splendid colors, as they marshal about the sun, sinking sublimely behind the tops of the hills, whose peaks his parting rays bathed in glory. So long as the heavens are clothed with beauty, Harrisburg need never be ashamed of its sunsets.

The inhabitants are generous, sociable and hospitable. The hand of friendship is cheerfully extended to every new-comer, nor is it ever coldly withdrawn until there be just cause. Their intelligence prompts them to patronize all literary entertainments, while amusements of a proper character always receive their meed of support.

The hotels, for the accommodation of the public, will compare favorably with the best of the cities. The buildings themselves are ample and commodious, and are fitted up with every modern improvement. The tables are noted for their variety and luxuries, to supply which the finest and most excellent markets in the Commonwealth give abundant opportunities.

With these attractions and natural facilities, it requires no extraordinary acumen to predict that Harrisburg is destined, at no distant day, to take its station in the front ranks of the many growing towns of the Keystone. And many, who now read these pages, may live to see the day when it will be the centre of the great manufacturing and industrial interests of our State, as it is now the centre of all political power.

We append a description of the public buildings, with condensed sketches of the societies, and other public institutions of the borough.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

**THE STATE CAPITOL.**—The State Capitol occupies a beautiful eminence on the northern border of the borough. From its cupola may be seen one of the finest landscapes of the State,

embracing a wide extent of cultivated country, swelling hills, the meanders of the river, and the adjacent mountains. The building fronts the river to the west, which is seen through State street, a handsome avenue one hundred and twenty feet wide. The pile consists of the main building, or State House, and two wings for the public offices, which were originally designed to be connected together by low ornamental walls, with gateways. The centre building is set back of the wings, so far that the inner columns of the porticos, of the parts, are in range, thus affording an uninterrupted view of them all. The ground slopes in front, and the main entrance is from State street, by ornamental massive gates, and a flight of sandstone steps with substantial iron banisters. There are other entrances, by similar gateways, at the corner of North and Third streets, Walnut and Third streets, and North and High streets. Within the last few years a beautiful iron railing has been erected around that portion of the public grounds fronting on Third, Walnut, and North streets, and an appropriation will soon be made to continue the same on High street, which will complete the enclosure; the entire cost of which will amount to about \$25,000.

The main building of the Capitol is one hundred and eighty feet front, eighty feet deep, and two stories high. The lower story contains the vestibule, and stair-case, the chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives, and several small apartments for the accommodation of the members and officers of the Legislature. The second story contains rooms for the State Library, Canal Commissioners, Supreme Court, School Department, and committees.

The main entrance is by a circular portico, the whole height of the building, sustained by six Ionic columns of red sandstone, painted white, four feet in diameter, and thirty-six feet high; the portico receding thirty-seven feet to a circular wall. The floor of the portico, upon which the columns rest, is about six feet high from the ground, and is attained by steps of sandstone,

and paved with massive flags of the same material. From the floor to the top of the cornice the distance is forty-six feet, and the whole height of the front is fifty feet six inches. From the top of the cornice to the top of the dome is fifty-seven feet, six inches, making the whole height one hundred and eight feet. The front, on either side of the portico, is divided into three equal parts, one of which is given to the corner, projecting with one window, which lights one of the transcribing rooms of the Senate at one end, and the Speaker's, or retiring room, of the House, at the other. The remaining parts contains three windows, which give light to both chambers. Under the portico are four windows on the first floor, two of which also communicate with the chambers, respectively, and the others with small apartments appropriated to the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate and the post office of the House. The ends of the building are divided into four equal parts. One is given to each corner projecting with one window, lighting at the south corner the Speaker's room, at the east corner the transcribing room of the House; at the west corner a transcribing room, and at the north corner the Speaker's room of the Senate. The remaining two contain three windows, the central of which are Venitian. The divisions and lights of the second story correspond with those of the first.

The rotunda, above the roof, is composed of sixteen columns, twenty-two inches in diameter and seventeen feet high, and is forty-eight feet in diameter, outside of the columns. There is a space of three feet between the columns and wall. The diameter of the inside is thirty-four feet. The dome is forty feet in diameter. It contains eight windows, three feet six inches wide, and nine feet six inches in height, and eight niches of like dimensions. Four of the latter are partly covered with the faces of the clock, and the remainder were originally designed for the reception of statues.

From the great portico we advance to the vestibule by large

folding doors in the external wall. The vestibule is illiptical, having on its longest axis forty feet, and on its shorter thirty-four feet. There are eight doors opening into it on each story, two of which, in the first, communicate with the Senate and Representative chambers, respectively, and a third, more properly an archway, leads to a double flight of stairs, which, mounting half the height of the story, unite and conduct to the second floor. On this floor the stair-case again divides and ascends into the roof and rotunda. The vestibule is partly floored over, leaving a circular opening, surrounded with a railing, through which, from below, may be seen the openings of the several landings, the vaulted ceiling, and through that the interior of the rotunda, with its vaulted roof. A capacious entry leads from this vestibule to both ends of the building, communicating with the Library, Supreme Court, and committee rooms of the Senate, at the north end, and with the Canal Commissioners, School Department, and committee rooms of the House of Representatives, at the south end. The Library contains about 15,000 volumes, beside a large number of duplicate volumes.

The Senate Chamber, on the left of the entrance, is seventy-five feet by fifty-seven feet in the clear, and twenty-one feet high. The Representative Chamber has the same length and height, and sixty-eight feet in breadth. The Senate Chamber is arranged for the accommodation of thirty-three members, to each of whom is allotted a space of three feet six inches.— Their desks are two feet wide, and the platform or benches, on which they rest, are slightly raised, one above the other, and five feet nine inches wide. There is a space of five feet between the members seats and gallery. The latter will contain several hundred persons. The chair of the Speaker, centrally placed in the length of the room, is supported upon an ornamental *dais*, with a columnar and neatly carved back, decorated with crimson tapestry. Behind the chair is an open space, lighted by the Venetian window, from which doors lead to closets on either hand,

used by the transcribing clerks. The chief and assistant clerks are accommodated with desks, on a platform, immediately in front of the Speaker's chair.

The Hall of the House of Representatives is disposed after the same manner, but being designed for the accommodation of one hundred members, the desks are considerably smaller than those of the Senate. The chair used by the Speaker of this body is the one occupied by John Hancock, when presiding over the deliberations of the Continental Congress. It is an object of great curiosity to strangers visiting the Capitol.

The building is furnished with gas throughout; and the Senate and Representative Chambers are illuminated at night, the former with two and the latter with four immense chandeliers of bronze pendent from the ceiling, besides brackets on the walls, and burners at the Speakers' and Clerks' desks. The rotunda is illuminated by simple brackets on the walls.

Within the last year a large amount of money has been expended in refurnishing and improving the interior of the Capitol. The floors of both of the Chambers have been covered with costly Brussels carpeting, and the rotunda with beautiful tiles; while the windows of the Representative Chamber have been fancifully curtained with damask, uniform with those which previously existed at the windows in the Senate Chamber. The walls and ceilings of both Chambers, with the rotunda to the vaulted ceiling of the dome, have also been frescoed in the most artistic style, giving the whole an appearance of sumptuousness not often found in legislative halls.

The wings, much smaller in every way than the main building, are, however, in keeping with it, and have porticoes of similar form, and if connected with the main building according to the original plan, would have a fine effect. At present they have an isolated appearance. The southern wing is occupied exclusively by the offices of the Land Department. The northern wing was enlarged by the erection of an additional building

---



at its north-eastern end, about fifteen years ago; and contains the Executive Chambers, State Department, Attorney General's and Adjutant General's offices, on the second story, and the Treasury Department and Auditor General's office on the first floor.

We append a list of the present State officers :

*Executive Department.*—Governor—Wm. F. Packer. Private Secretary—Albert Packer. Messenger—Allen L. Innis.

*State Department.*—Secretary of State—William M. Hiestter. Deputy Secretary—Henry L. Dieffenbach. Chief Clerk—John A. Innis. Clerks—B. F. Chandler, Richard Hogeland, John Jones, B. F. Irwin. Messenger—Benjamin Buffington.

*Attorney General's Office.*—Attorney General—John C. Knox. Clerk—Charles B. Brockway.

*Common School Department.*—Superintendent—Henry C. Hickok. Deputy Superintendent—John M. Sullivan. Recording Clerk—George W. Crabb. Warrant Clerk—James G. Sample. Messenger—J. A. Spofford.

*Auditor General's Office.*—Auditor General—Jacob Fry, Jr. Chief Clerk—William Q. Wallace. Clerks—Charles Conner, S. W. Bailey, Thomas M. M'Illhenney, J. B. Hutchinson, Carroll M'Clean, David R. Reynolds. Messenger—Ephraim Meek.

*Land Department.*—Surveyor General—John Rowe. Chief Clerk—Thomas J. Rehner. Clerks—Samuel Slemmer, William D. Earnest, J. M. Cooper, T. N. Brooks, C. W. Dimmick, Jas. A. Johnson. Messenger—John D. Williams.

*Treasury Department.*—State Treasurer—Henry S. Magraw. Chief Clerk—William D. Boas. Assistant Clerks—Randall M'Laughlin, George J. Bolton, Samuel Brenizer. Messenger—George Adams.

*Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds.*—Chambers C. Mullin.

The public buildings are simple and plain in their exterior;

but having a bold and distinct contour, they are grand and imposing.

The State Arsenal also stands on the public grounds east of the Capitol. It is a neat brick edifice, with two wings, connected by a brick wall, and was built by Stephen Hills, the architect of the Capitol, under direction of an act of Assembly approved the 15th of March, 1816, and cost the net sum of \$12,000. Several attempts, not altogether unsuccessful, have been made to obtain the passage of an act authorizing the removal of this structure from its present site, as it is thought to mar the beauty of the eastern slope of the public grounds, which have recently been handsomely embellished by grading, and planted with evergreens and other ornamental shade trees, by Mr. Mullen, the present superintendent of the property.

An act of Assembly was passed last winter appropriating funds for the erection of a monument in memory of citizens of Pennsylvania who lost their lives in the Mexican war, upon some part of the public grounds. The commissioners named in the act have solicited plans, specifications and estimates for the proposed monument, the cost of which is not to exceed the sum of \$30,000.

---

**THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.**—This building is situated at the corner of Market street and Rasberry alley, on the remaining two of the four lots conveyed by John Harris, Jr., to the commissioners, for public use.

It is an antique looking structure of brick, two stories high, with two wings, and a semi-rotunda in front, the whole surmounted with a circular wooden cupola, containing a bell.

The semi rotunda was added to the main building, after its completion, by the State, to accommodate the officers of the Legislature, during its occupancy by that body.

The wings are each seventeen by thirty-two feet in extent, inside of the walls, and contain two apartments on each story.

Those on the first story of the western wing are occupied by the Prothonotary, and the two above by the Grand Jury and Town Council. The Register and Recorder occupy the first story of the eastern wing, and the County Commissioners the rooms on the second story.

The front rooms on the first story of the wings, and all the rooms on the second story, communicate with the main building.

The court room is forty-nine feet long and forty-five and one-half feet deep, to the front of the *dais* occupied by the Judges, in the rear of which the wall is built in the shape of a segment or a small circle, and pierced by three large windows.

Galleries, with seats, occupy three sides of the room, capable of affording accommodation to about four hundred spectators, while nearly the same number can be accommodated with standing room in the lobbys fronting them.

The bar is circular, and partitioned from the lobby by neat wood pannels, about five feet high, surmounted with a small neat turned railing, about one foot high. Chairs and circular tables are here provided for the attorneys.

The inner sides of the bar contain two jury boxes, partitioned from its centre by neat wooding railing, running parallel with the curve of the circle. That on the south-west side is furnished with benches, and is occupied by the Grand Jury, and the petit juries when returning a verdict. The one opposite contains twelve cushioned arm chairs, and is occupied exclusively by the petit juries when hearing the trials.

The Prothonotary, reporters for the press, and Clerk of the Orphans' Court, are accommodated with desks immediately in front of the platform occupied by the Judges.

The witness box is on the platform at the left side of the Judges; and the prisoners generally occupy a seat on the right side of the gate leading within the bar.

A door at the two rear ends of the room conducts into a large and beautiful yard, enclosed with a substantial board fence

painted white, and containing a variety of ornamental trees, disposed in straight lines, whose shady avenues, during the mid summer months, are much frequented by the court visitors.

The main passage to the street, from the court room, leads through a spacious vestibule to the semi-rotunda before noticed, from which winds a stair-case to the second story, where it connects with an entry leading to an apartment of equal dimensions with the court room.

When the Legislature held its sessions in the building this room was occupied by the Senate. It was latterly used for public meetings, lectures, &c., and is now temporarily occupied by the Presbyterian Sunday School. A door at each corner communicates with the rooms on the second story of the wings, already described.

The County Treasurer's and Sheriff's offices are located in the front part of the second story of the main building, the former on the north-eastern and the latter on the south-western side of the previously mentioned entry. The Treasurer's office communicates by a doorway with the Commissioner's office.

The building stands a considerable distance in from the line of the street, and the space thus derived is occupied by an embankment of earth, properly leveled and paved with brick, which is attained by a small flight of sandstone steps running the entire length of the lot on Market street, and along its extent on Rasberry alley.

The building is supplied with gas throughout; and the court room is illuminated at night with brackets and a beautiful chandelier, pendant from the ceiling, directly over the centre of the bar.

The qualified electors of the north, east, south and west wards of Harrisburg, and of Upper Swatara and Susquehanna townships, have each their separate places of voting in the building.

As nearly all the offices of the county are located in the court building, it is deemed proper to append the following list of

*County Officers.*

President Judge—John J. Pearson.

Associate Judges—A. O. Hiester, Felix Nimley.

District Attorney—A. J. Herr.

Sheriff—Jacob M. Eyster.

Prothonotary, &c.—William Mitchell; Clerk—J. O. Young.

Recorder of Deeds, &c.—Peter Hummel; Clerk—John Fox.

Register of Wills, &c.—Samuel Marquart.

Commissioners—John S. Musser, Samuel Singer, Jacob Buffington; Clerk—Geo. J. Shoemaker.

Treasurer—Alexander W. Watson.

Surveyor—Daniel Hoffman.

Directors of the Poor—Simon Daniel, Joseph Clark, John Raysor.

Auditors—Henry Peffer, Isaac Deitrich, George Hammon.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Frederick Trace.

Mercantile Appraiser—John H. Hummel.

Tax Collectors—South Ward—Dan'l Snyder; North Ward—M. B. Montgomery.

*List of Attorneys of the Courts of Dauphin county, from its organization to the year 1858.*

The following is a list of the attorneys who have practiced in the Courts of Dauphin county since the year 1785, the period of its organization, to 1858. It is compiled from the original list in the Prothonotary's office:

Stephen Chambers,	.	.	May Term, 1785.
John W. Kittera,	.	.	" "
John Clark,	.	.	" "
Joseph Hubley,	.	.	" "
John A. Hanna,	.	.	" "
James Riddle,	.	.	" "
John J. Henry,	.	.	" "
Peter Huffnagle,	.	.	" "
Jacob Hubley,	.	.	" "

James Biddle, . . .	May Term, 1785.
Collinson Reed, . . .	" "
George Ross, . . .	" "
John Bailey, . . .	" "
Jasper Yeates, . . .	August Term, 1785.
Robert Magaw, . . .	" "
Thomas Hartley, . . .	" "
Thomas Smith, . . .	" "
David Grier, . . .	" "
Thomas Duncan, . . .	" "
John Caldwell, . . .	" "
Andrew Dunlap, . . .	" "
William Montgomery, . . .	" "
William Graydon, . . .	May Term, 1786.
Charles Smith, . . .	" "
James Smith, . . .	August Term, 1786.
James Hamilton, . . .	" "
William B. Atlee, . . .	November Term, 1786.
James Hopkins, . . .	May Term, 1787.
Richard Wharton, . . .	August Term, 1787.
George Fisher, . . .	November Term, 1787.
George Eckart, . . .	February Term, 1788.
William Bradford, . . .	May Term, 1788.
Edward Burd, . . .	" "
John Spayd, . . .	" "
Matthias Barton, . . .	August, 1788.
Galbraith Patterson, . . .	August, 1789.
Marks John Biddle, . . .	November, 1789.
John Moore, . . .	" "
John Smith, . . .	February, 1790.
Daniel Smith, . . .	May, 1790.
Joseph Burd, . . .	" "
Ralph Bowie, . . .	August, 1790.
Charles Hall, . . .	May, 1791.
Samuel Riddle, . . .	" "
Samuel Roberts, . . .	August, 1791.
Thomas Creigh, . . .	" "
David Watt, . . .	" "
Robert Duncan, . . .	" "
Thomas Elder, . . .	" "

Daniel Clymer, . . .	November, 1791.
Daniel Levy, . . .	March, 1792.
William Wallace, . . .	June, 1792.
George Smith, . . .	" "
John Kidd, . . .	" "
Samuel Laird, . . .	September, 1792.
John Ross, . . .	" "
James Kelley, . . .	December, 1792.
James Campbell, . . .	" "
Jonathan Henderson, . . .	March, 1793.
William Barber, . . .	" "
William R. Hanna, . . .	December, 1793.
Matthew Henry, . . .	March, 1794.
John Shippen, . . .	" "
John Montgomery, . . .	June, 1794.
Samuel S. Galbraith, . . .	" "
James Crawford, . . .	September, 1794.
John Murray, . . .	December, 1794.
Robert Whitehill, . . .	September, 1795.
James Gilchrist, . . .	December, 1795.
Robert Stewart, . . .	September, 1796.
Evan Rice Evans, . . .	December, 1796.
William A. Patterson, . . .	March, 1797.
Charles Hartley, . . .	September, 1797.
William Laird, . . .	June, 1798.
David Caseatt, . . .	December, 1798.
Frederick Smith, . . .	March, 1799.
Frederick Haller, . . .	" "
William Ross, . . .	September, 1799.
Alexander Graydon, . . .	March, 1800.
Patton Ross, . . .	" "
William A. Thompson, . . .	September, 1800.
Robert Allison, . . .	December, 1800.
Thomas Graham, . . .	June, 1801.
Andrew Buchanan, . . .	" "
John Cadwallader, . . .	Adjourned Court, July, 1801.
William Soner, . . .	December, 1802.
David Hays, . . .	Adjourned Court, January, 1803.
Edward Goodwin, . . .	March, 1803.
Hugh Hamilton, . . .	June, 1805.

Washington Lee, . . .	March, 1806.
Abner Wickersham, . . .	May, 1806.
Andrew Carothers, . . .	September, 1806.
William N. Irvine, . . .	Adjourned Court, March, 1
Moses M'Lean, . . .	May, 1807.
Walker Reed, . . .	August, 1807.
John B. Gibson, . . .	" "
Isaac B. Parke, . . .	May, 1808.
George Metzgar, . . .	August, 1808.
Amos Elmaker, . . .	December, 1808.
George K. Nutz, . . .	Adjourned Court, March, 1
George Metzgar, . . .	May, 1809.
Stephen Carson, . . .	" "
Alexander Mahon, . . .	April, 1810.
James M'Cullough, . . .	December, 1810.
Thomas Montgomery, . . .	April, 1811.
Henry Shippen, . . .	September, 1811.
John Fisher, . . .	" "
John Roberts, . . .	February, 1812.
Bushnell Carter, . . .	May, 1812.
Abiather Hopkins, . . .	" "
John Johnson, . . .	August, 1812.
Andrew Berryhill, . . .	" "
James Buchanan, . . .	November, 1812.
James Dobbins, . . .	" "
Jacob B. Weidman, . . .	August, 1813.
George B. Porter, . . .	" "
Henry W. Hurts, . . .	November, 1813.
John M. Foster, . . .	May, 1814.
Charles A. Barnitz, . . .	December, 1815.
Hugh Bellas, . . .	February, 1816.
Samuel G. Strong, . . .	September, 1816.
James Hamilton, . . .	October, 1816.
Edwin Atlee White, . . .	December, 1816.
Samuel Bacon, . . .	" "
Francis R. Shunk, . . .	September, 1816.
Mordecai M'Kinney, . . .	May, 1817.
John Mahon, . . .	" "
George Burd, . . .	" "
Jonathan Houle, Jr., . . .	May, 1818.



Nicholas B. Wood,	. . .	October, 1818.
Daniel J. Heister,	. . .	" 1819.
Philip Frasier,	. . .	December, 1819.
John Mumma,	. . .	" "
David Durkie,	. . .	December, 1818.
Samuel Douglass,	. . .	March, 1819.
Michael Gallagher,	. . .	March, 1820.
Samuel Shook,	. . .	" "
James Maginnis,	. . .	" "
Henry Woodward,	. . .	" "
William Ramsey,	. . .	" "
John Smith,	. . .	June, 1820.
Frank Bugbee,	. . .	October, 1820.
John Adams Fisher,	. . .	December 12, 1820.
William Powell,	. . .	December, 1821.
William Penrose,	. . .	" "
Charles Davis,	. . .	" "
Samuel Alexander,	. . .	March, 1821.
James Findlay,	. . .	November, 1822.
Adam H. Orth,	. . .	" "
Edward Coleman,	. . .	January, 1823.
James B. Hubley,	. . .	" "
John Williamson,	. . .	" "
David W. Huling,	. . .	April 21, 1823.
Jacob W. Harning,	. . .	" 22, "
William M'Clay,	. . .	" " "
Ethan Baldwin,	. . .	July 14, 1823.
Morris Wilson,	. . .	November 25, 1823.
Richard B. M'Cabe,	. . .	" " "
Thomas Burnside,	. . .	January, 1824.
Ellis Lewis,	. . .	" 19, 1824.
Samuel J. Packer,	. . .	" 22, 1824.
David Krause,	. . .	August 15, 1825,
James M'Cormick,	. . .	" " "
Christopher Leoser,	. . .	August 24, 1825.
Herman Alricks,	. . .	November 24, 1825.
William Ayres,	. . .	April 17, 1826.
Samuel H. Nesmuth,	. . .	" " 1827.
Hamilton Alricks,	. . .	January 23, 1828.
Legrand Bancroft,	. . .	April 22, 1828.

John Lashell, . . .	April 22, 1828.
Robert J. Fisher, . . .	August 16, 1828.
Peter A. Browne, . . .	November 25, 1828.
Benjamin Parke, . . .	" " "
Isaac Fisher, . . .	" 30, "
Calvin Blythe, . . .	January, 28, 1829.
Walter Eranklin, . . .	September 2, 1829.
C. C. Rawn, . . .	January 18, 1831.
John Hogg, . . .	November 17, 1831.
John Cadwallader, . . .	April 23, 1832.
James H. Deaor, . . .	July 14, 1834.
John W. Ashmead, . . .	August 25, 1834.
E. P. Oliphant, . . .	November 18, 1834.
George Griscon, . . .	" 19, "
Ebenezer Harrington, . . .	" 20, "
Samuel Hepburn, . . .	" 24, "
John Gardner, . . .	February 5, 1836.
Thomas Ignatias Walsh, . . .	April 18, 1836.
Charles Pleasants, . . .	June, 12, 1832.
Levi Kline, . . .	April 17, 1837.
John H. Briggs, . . .	" 18, "
David Pool, . . .	" " "
Joseph W. Cake, . . .	" 26, "
Frederick K. Boas, . . .	August 22, 1837.
William S. Ramsey, . . .	November 30, 1837.
James Cameron, . . .	August 21, 1838.
John H. Berryhill, . . .	" 81, "
James F. Cooper, . . .	" 20, 1839.
William B. Reed, . . .	" 22, "
John T. Adams, . . .	November 19, 1839.
Alexander Ramsey, . . .	December 8, 1839.
Jacques W. Johnson, . . .	January 20, 1840.
H. C. Hickok, . . .	April 28, 1840.
B. B. Crawford, . . .	January 11, 1841.
Samuel W. Wharton, . . .	" 18, "
Lemuel G. Brandebury, . . .	" 30, "
Charles W. Hepburn, . . .	October 4, 1841.
Charles J. Ingersoll, . . .	October 11, 1841.
David Fleming, . . .	November 17, 1841.
Richard L. Elliott, . . .	November 21, 1841.

Joseph C. Wallace, .	November 21, 1841.
Richard C. M'Allister, .	" " "
Samuel T. Shunk, .	" " "
Jacob Y. Blackwell, .	January 19, 1842.
Thomas J. Jordan, .	February 6, 1843.
Peter Brua M'Cord, .	August 26, 1843.
James Snodgrass, .	" " "
Dewitt Clinton Brooks, .	November 23, 1843.
Edward A. Lesley, .	April 15, 1844.
Cornelius P. Bennet, .	" 18, "
George F. Small, .	August 19, 1844.
James Fox, .	" " "
Richard C. De Armand, .	" 22, "
B. Gibson Peacock, .	" " "
David Moore, .	" " "
Evans O. Jackson, .	April 22, 1845.
Henry K. Strong, .	" 29, "
Samuel Alleman, .	August 19, 1845.
Francis C. Carson, .	" " "
Lemuel Todd, .	November 25, 1845.
John W. Maynard, .	January 23, 1846.
John B. Johnson, .	February 4, 1846.
O. J. Bailey, .	" 9, "
John M'Kibben, .	" 14, "
Horn R. Kneas, .	March 9, 1846.
R. A. Lamberton, .	August 17, 1846.
William H. Miller, .	November 18, 1846.
William Hamilton, .	" 25, "
David Barnitz, .	" " "
Benj. Powell, .	" 30, "
John M. Reed, .	December 7, "
William C. Chapman, .	April 28, 1847.
John Henry Adam, .	May 24, 1847.
William M. Penrose, .	January 17, 1848.
James B. Smith, .	" 19, "
Robert E. Monaghan, .	" 28, "
James K. Kerr, .	March 23, 1848.
John H. M'Kune, .	April 24, 1848.
William Brua Cameron, .	January 23, 1849.
George F. Emerson, .	February 6, 1849.

H. Murray Graydon, . . .	August 22, 1849.
Lafayette G. Dimcock, . . .	" " "
William A. Shannon, . . .	" " "
John L. Shuler, . . .	" 27, "
H. B. Wood, . . .	November 20, 1849.
G. A. C. Seiler, . . .	" " "
C. M. Shell, . . .	January 22, 1850.
Charles W. M'Clean, . . .	" " "
J. Montgomery Forster, . . .	April 24, 1850.
S. S. Elder, . . .	" " "
A. J. Herr, . . .	August 20, 1850.
C. L. Lamberton, . . .	" " "
W. T. Bishop, . . .	" " "
James Dawson, . . .	" 28, "
R. M. Lee, . . .	December 9, 1850.
John S. Detwiler, . . .	March 25, 1851.
John Detwiler, . . .	April 2, 1851.
B. F. Etter, . . .	November 24, 1851.
John W. Brown, . . .	January 23, 1852.
A. Herr Smith, . . .	May 13, 1852.
Henry W. Lamberton, . . .	November 16, 1852.
David Mumma, Jr., . . .	April 26, 1853.
John W. Simonton, . . .	" " "
William C. A. Lawrence, . . .	August 31, 1853.
Jesse Landis, . . .	November 29, 1853.
William H. Davis, . . .	April 24, 1854.
George R. Hamilton, . . .	May 15, 1854.
H. C. Alleman, . . .	November 25, 1854.
J. Alexander Simpson, . . .	December 29, 1855.
R. L. Muench, . . .	January 22, 1856.
D. H. Hoffues, . . .	March 18, 1856.
James M'Cormick, Jr., . . .	August 26, 1856.
J. Wesley Ayl, . . .	" " "
George Hill, . . .	May 1, 1857.
Alfred Pearson, . . .	September 2, 1857.
Benj. L. Forster, . . .	January 22, 1858.
John H. Hampton, . . .	February 15, 1858.
James F. Shunk, . . .	July 8, 1858.
William H. Eckles, . . .	August 24, 1858.
George W. M'Elroy, . . .	" 27, "

The following list is given in "Brooks Rules of Court," as the present practising attorneys of the Dauphin county bar. We could find no record of the dates of admission of a few of the gentlemen named :

Alricks, Herman.	Jordan, Thomas J.
Alricks, Hamilton.	Jones, J. A. W.
Awl, J. Wesley.	Kunkel, John C.
Alleman, Henry C.	Knox, George W.
Berryhill, John H.	Lamberton, R. A.
Bishop, William T.	Lawrence, William C. A.
Boas, F. K.	M'Cormick, James.
Briggs, John H.	M'Kinney, Mordecai.
Brown, John W.	Miller, William H.
Casey, Joseph.	Muench, R. L.
Detwiler, John S.	Mumma, David, Jr.
Eekles, William H.	M'Cormick, James, Jr.
Etter, B. F.	Parke, Benjamin.
Fisher, J. Adams.	Pearson, Alfred.
Fleming, David.	Rawn, C. C.
Forster, J. Montgomery.	Roberts, John.
Forster, Benj. L.	Seiler, George A. C.
Graydon, H. Murray.	Shell, C. M.
Harris, George W.	Simonton, J. W.
Herr, A. J.	Shunk, James F.

**THE COUNTY PRISON.**—The County Prison is situated at the corner of Walnut street and Raspberry alley, on two of the lots conveyed by John Harris, Jr., to the commissioners for public use when the town was first laid out, noticed previously. The buildings occupy the site of the old County Prison, which was moved in 1839-40, to give place to the present structure.

The building fronting on Walnut street is constructed of fine light granite from Chester or Montgomery county, in the Gothic style of architecture, and is devoted entirely to the residence and office of the keeper. It is two stories high, and surmounted with an octagonal tower, originally intended to contain an alarm bell. Being built at some distance from the line of the street,

a handsome garden plot fronts the structure, enclosed with neat cast-iron railing. Wing-walls of granite flank the building on either side, which connect with massive limestone walls twenty-three feet high, enclosing the two sides and rear of the lots.

Within this enclosure, and connected with the front building by a corridor ten feet wide, is the prison proper. It is a plain limestone building, two stories high, containing forty cells, each fifteen feet in length and seven and a half in width, twenty of which are on the first story, ten fronting each side of the corridor. The twenty cells on the second story have a similar arrangement, and are attained by a stairway in the centre of the corridor leading to a gallery, with which they communicate.

Each of the cells contain a bed and water-closet. The floors are covered with asphaltum. They are heated by hot water, and properly ventilated by apertures through the outside wall. The floor of the corridor is covered with brick, and is lighted and ventilated by sky-lights on the roof. Its entire length is eighty feet.

The cost of the prison, finished in 1841, was \$40,000. It was erected by John Haviland, architect. The Commissioners of the county at the period of its completion were John Brohoff, David Hummel, and Henry Pepper, clerk.

We append the Inspectors' and Keeper's report of the Prison for the year 1857 :

*Inspectors' Report for 1857.*

*To the Court of Quarter Sessions of the county of Dauphin :*

The Inspectors of the Dauphin County Prison respectfully present their report for the year 1857.

On the 1st of January, 1857, there were in prison 35 prisoners; 1 under sentence of death; 1 then believed and since declared to be insane; 13 sentenced to labor, to wit: 1 for eight years, 3 for six years, 1 for five years, 2 for four years, 1 for three years, 1 for two years, 1 for twenty months, three for one

year, and 20 awaiting trial. Of these, 27 were white males, and 1 white female; 5 colored males, and 2 colored females.

During the year 1857 there have been 767 prisoners received into prison. Of these, 186 are from Pennsylvania, 81 from Germany, 348 from Ireland, 33 from Maryland, 47 from New York, 40 from Ohio, 10 from Virginia, 18 from New Jersey, and 4 from Canada. Of these, 617 are white males, and 28 white females; 100 colored males, and 22 colored females.

Of those received in 1857—to wit, 767—there were committed for

Drunkenness, - - -	153	Sodomy, - - - -	2
Vagrancy, - - -	360	Refusing to support their	
Disorderly conduct, - -	59	wives, - - - -	2
Murder, - - - -	2	Surety of the peace, - -	8
Larceny, - - - -	42	Malicious mischief, - -	12
Assault and battery, - -	45	Fighting and disturbing elec-	
Rape and attempt to commit, -	5	tions, - - - -	4
Robbery, - - - -	6	Breach of promise to marry, -	1
Burglary, - - - -	4	Riot, - - - -	4
Highway robbery, - -	1	Arson, - - - -	1
Picking pockets, - -	4	Selling liquor without license, -	8
Forgery, - - - -	8	Selling liquor to minors, -	2
False pretences, - - -	11	Slander, - - - -	1
Passing counterfeit money, -	1	Rescuing prisoner from officer, -	1
Attempt to kidnap, - -	2	Bail piece, - - - -	8
Disorderly house, - -	8	Default to pay costs, - -	8
Fornication and bastardy, -	4		
Whole number, - - -	-	- - - - -	- 767

During the year 1857, 732 prisoners have been discharged, to wit: by expiration of sentence, 7; by Court, 43; by committing magistrates, 118; under existing laws, 557; removed to Pennsylvania Hospital, 1; removed to Cumberland county for trial, 1; pardoned, 1; committed suicide, 1; died, 3; leaving 85 in prison, January 1, 1858.

Of those in prison, January 1, 1858—to wit, 85—2 are under

sentence of death; 20 under sentence to labor, to wit: 1 for eight years, 3 for six years, 3 for five years, 2 for four years, 1 for three years, 1 for two years, 1 for one year, 1 for eighteen months, 2 for nine months, 1 for eight months, 1 for six months, 1 for four months, 1 for three months, 1 for two months; 3 for costs; 1 for safe keeping, being insane; 4 to imprisonment only; and 5 awaiting trial. Of these, 18 are white males, and 3 white females; 10 colored males, and 4 colored females.

Of the 20 in prison, January 1, 1858, sentenced to labor, 1 was committed at January sessions, 1853; 3 at April and 1 at November sessions, 1855; 1 at January and 2 at August sessions, 1856; 6 at April, 3 at August, and 3 at November sessions, 1857. Of these, 14 are from Pennsylvania, 1 from Maryland, 1 from Virginia, 1 from New York, 1 from England, and 2 from Germany. Aged, to wit: 11 between twenty and thirty years, 3 between thirty and forty, 3 between forty and fifty, 2 between fifty and sixty, and 1 between sixty and seventy.

During the year 1857 we have drawn from the County Treasury \$7,000. The account of the Prison for 1857, was, on the 15th instant, settled and approved by the County Auditors. A detailed statement will in due time be published.

In conclusion we remark, that in all respects we have full confidence in the ability and integrity of the Keeper and Matron of the Prison; that the Physician, and also the under-keeper and superintendent of the weaving department, have each, in their respective stations, rendered full satisfaction, and that the County Commissioners have rendered all the aid required.

C. F. MUENCH,  
M. KIRK,  
H. ANTES,  
WM. H. KEPNER,  
WM. COLDER, JR.,  
HENRY PEFFER,

*Inspectors of the Dauphin County Prison.*

DAUPHIN COUNTY PRISON,  
Harrisburg, January 15, 1858. }



*Keeper's Report, January 1, 1858.**To the Inspectors of the Dauphin County Prison:*

GENTLEMEN: I respectfully submit to you the following report of the weaving department for the year 1857, to wit:

## Dr.

Stock on hand, January 1, 1857,	-	-	-	-	\$1,278 37
Hay & M'Devitt, for yarn, &c.,	-	-	-	-	84 86
Thomas H. Creigh & Co., for yarn, &c.,	-	-	-	-	489 84
Robert Creighton & Co., for yarn, &c.,	-	-	-	-	244 07

Amount on hand and purchased for 1857,	-	-	-	-	<u>\$2,046 64</u>
--	---	---	---	---	-------------------

## Cr.

169 pieces check, 9,464 yards, @ 9 cents,	-	-	-	-	\$851 76
535 yards bagging, @ 15 cents,	-	-	-	-	80 25
38 dozen bags, @ \$5,	-	-	-	-	190 00
8 dozen 2 bushel bags, @ \$8 75,	-	-	-	-	11 25
85 pounds carpets, No. 20, @ 25½ cents,	-	-	-	-	21 68
85 pounds carpets, No. 6, @ 23 cents,	-	-	-	-	19 55
55 pounds warp, No. 6, @ 23 cents,	-	-	-	-	12 65
150 pounds bleached warp, @ 31½ cents,	-	-	-	-	47 25
300 pounds blue warp and filling, @ 38 cents,	-	-	-	-	114 00

Real amount of stock, January 1, 1858,	-	-	-	-	\$1,848 89
240 yards pants stuff for prison, @ 25 cents,	-	-	-	-	60 00
280 yards check for shirting, @ 12½ cents,	-	-	-	-	85 00

Amount used for Prison,	-	-	-	-	95 00
Cash received of Robert Creighton & Co., as per bill of sales rendered November 30, 1857, and since paid treasurer of Dauphin County Prison,	61	51			
Cash due April 4, 1858, from Robert Creighton & Co., as per bill of sales rendered May 30, 1857,	560	09			
					<u>621 60</u>

Amount of cash received and due,	-	-	-	-	2,064 99
Dr. as above,	-	-	-	-	<u>2,046 64</u>

Balance for Prison,	-	-	-	-	-	<u>\$18 85</u>
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----------------

In addition to the above statement, I remark that, in consequence of the uncertain demand for goods, and the price in yarn, I have manufactured less than ordinary, believing it to be a saving to the county to do no more than was necessary for the healthy preservation of the body and mental faculties of the convicts.

JOHN T. WILSON,

*Keeper of the Dauphin County Prison.*

DAUPHIN COUNTY PRISON,  
Harrisburg, January 1, 1858. }

---

HARRISBURG WATER WORKS.—On the 18th day of September 1841, the chief engineer, T. Erdman, Esq., first announced to the Town Council and citizens, the final completion of the Harrisburg Water Works, and at an early day thereafter the pure element was ready for general use.

The water house of the works is situated at the western end of North street, on the bank of the Susquehanna, near a spot known as "Maclay's rock." It is constructed with a durable variety of granite in a very pleasing style of architecture.

The top of the structure is on a level with the street, surrounded with ornamental cast-iron railing, and commands a prominent view of the surrounding scenery. On each side of the building are stone stair-ways to the entrances below. That on the southern side conducts to the boiler room; and that on the northern side into the engine and pumping room. The steam engine is forty horse power, twelve inch cylinder, five feet stroke, and performs sixteen revolutions per minute. It uses about fifty pounds of steam per inch, works a pump with a five foot stroke, and eight inch cylinder, under a head of ninety pounds, throwing three hundred and four gallons of water per minute a distance of about two thousand feet, making the necessary allowance for wastage.

The average annual expense of keeping the machinery in

operation, including fuel, engineer's services, and other incidental expenses, is about one thousand six hundred dollars per year.

The reservoir of the works is located on the high ground directly north of the State Capitol. Its top is ninety-two feet above the low water mark at the Market street bridge, and ninety-one feet above the low water mark of 1803 on Maclay's rock. The lot upon which it is located contains eight acres and ten perches, and its cost, including the grounds, was \$14,528 92

The reservoir is capable of containing, at one foot depth, 43,866 gallons of water; at ten foot depth, 702,252 gallons; and at sixteen foot depth, 1,530,195 gallons.

There are between seven and eight miles of conducting pipe laid through the several streets of the borough, and connected with this are about one hundred fire-plugs and ninety stop-cocks, all of which undergo an annual inspection, and are kept in constant repair.

*Statement showing the actual cost of the Harrisburg Water-works :*

Water house, inlet, &c ,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$13,543 53
Reservoir, fences and grounds,	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,528 82
Carpenter work and lumber,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,798 72
Labor, &c.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,681 47
Blacksmith work,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,086 98
Incidentals,	-	-	-	-	-	-	68,110 99
Removing grave yard,	-	-	-	-	-	-	447 49
Engineering,	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,118 66
Printing,	-	-	-	-	-	-	101 87
Real estate,	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,487 54
Treasurer, Clerk, &c., (pay of,)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,525 00
Fence at water house, &c.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	88 50
Total cost,	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>\$120,459 12</u>

It is highly gratifying to the citizens of the borough to compare this result with that of other towns. When the city of Philadelphia had expended \$657,398 91, her amount of water

rents the first year was only \$537. When the city of Lancaster completed her water works at a cost of \$104,000, her water rents the first year were \$1,200; while the water works in Harrisburg, at the cost above stated, when in operation only seven months produced upwards of \$3,000 rentage.

The following is a list of the members of the Town Council who authorized and commenced the construction of the water works :

Valentine Hummel, Sr., President; George J. Shoemaker, Clerk; John Knepley, Sr., William Catrell, William Ayres, George S. Kemble, William B. Johnson, Michael Burke, Samuel Pool.

---

**THE GAS WORKS.**—The Harrisburg gas company was incorporated in 1850, with a capital of \$75,000. The buildings of the company are situated on a lot two hundred feet wide and three hundred feet deep, at the east side of the Pennsylvania railroad, a short distance east of the foot of Mulberry street. They consist of two handsome brick structures each one story high. The north building is eighty-three feet long and thirty feet wide, and is occupied by the “retorts” and “benches,” of which there are fifteen of the former, and five of the latter. There is, also, an apartment used for the storage of bituminous coal, of which about eleven hundred tons are used annually, and one for coke, which is used as fuel for the bench fires. The south building is sixty-eight feet long and thirty feet wide. Two of its rooms are occupied as offices, and one for the meter, which contains four large purifying boxes capable of passing 80,000 cubic feet of gas per twenty-four hours. Another room contains four additional purifying boxes and about one hundred and sixty feet of condensing pipe. There is also an apartment stored with lime, used in the purification of the gas.

The gasometer is situated a short distance below this build-

ing. It is fifty feet in diameter and sixteen feet high, and capable of containing 30,000 cubic feet of gas.

The amount of gas consumed in the borough varies with the season of the year. During the session of the Legislature, and when the street lamps are illuminated, the daily consumption of gas amounts to about 25,000 cubic feet. In the fall of the year this amount is reduced to about 15,000 feet, and in the summer, on moonlight nights, it is still further reduced to about 10,000 feet.

There are about 28,000 feet of pipe laid through the streets of the borough, exclusive of one and a half miles to the Lunatic Hospital. Of this about 10,000 feet were laid by the contractors, and the remainder by the company.

The works were erected by Messrs. Stewart & Carver, and cost about \$60,000, of which about \$16,000 were paid to the builders.

The first officers were Gen. Wm. Ayres, President; John C. Bucher, Treasurer; and David Fleming, Secretary.

Officers in October, 1858:—George S. Kemble, President; George Bergner, Secretary; William T. Bishop, Treasurer; Dr. W. W. Rutherford, A. Patterson, William Dock, Sr., Valentine Hummel, Sr., Directors; Levi Gray, Superintendent.

---

**THE HARRISBURG COTTON FACTORY.**—This establishment is situated on North street, between Front and Second. It is built of brick, four stories high, two hundred feet long and sixty feet wide, with two end wings one story high, sixty-four feet long, and twenty-four feet wide. The main building is surmounted with a beautiful cupola containing a large and fine toned bell used to summon and dismiss the workmen in the day time, and to strike the hours at night by the watchman of the establishment.

The building stands a considerable distance off the street,

thus affording room for a spacious and well arranged garden plot in front, which is enclosed with a handsome wooden pallisade.

At the extreme eastern corner of the lot is a detached one story brick building devoted to offices and the packing rooms, in which latter the bales of manufactured goods are marked with the company's stamp, and packed with a hydraulic press possessing a power of twenty tons.

Immediately in the rear of this building is an immense brick stack one hundred and four feet high. Entering the north-eastern wing of the main building the visitor will first observe five immense horizontal boilers, which consume in generating steam, about seven tons of coal daily. From this apartment a passage leads into the engine room, which is in the main building. The engine is two hundred horse power, with a five feet stroke, driving a fly-wheel twenty feet in diameter. Adjoining are two rooms occupied by mechanics of various trades, who make the necessary repairs to the machinery, &c. Communicating with these is the carding room, which is one hundred and thirty feet long, and the entire width of the building, where the cotton is prepared for spinning. The picking room is in the wing at the western extremity of this chamber, and was the scene of a disastrous conflagration in the winter of 1854-5, caused, it was thought, by a spark of fire emitted from some flinty or metallic particle concealed in the cotton when passing through the machinery. Fortunately, the apartment was separated from the carding room in the main building by a massive brick wall and a ponderous iron door, which confined the flames to the wing, and thus, perhaps, saved the entire establishment from destruction. The wing itself sustained but little injury by the fire, owing to the activity of the firemen, but the machinery and stock of cotton it contained were almost totally destroyed.

In the basement of the picking room is what is termed the "willey room," where the cotton in bales is received. Here

are machines which operate on the raw cotton, opening its delicate fibres, and carrying it by air through a trough to the chamber above. The draught of air is obtained by a fan making about eight hundred revolutions per minute. In the picking room the cotton is made into laps, and prepared for the cards. A flue is connected with each picking machine for removing the dust, the draught for which is produced by a fan making fifteen hundred revolutions per minute.

The second story of the building is devoted exclusively to the weaving room, and contains three hundred looms of the most approved construction.

The spinning room occupies the third story, and contains eight thousand and sixty-four spindles. One side is devoted to warp spinning and the other to filling. There are here twelve machines on which are wound a certain number of threads pieced together to the length of about four hundred yards.

The dressing room is on the fourth story, where the sizing is performed. The beams of the warping machines, filled with the thread cotton, are made to pass between rollers which revolve in copper troughs containing sizing. After which they are made to pass over copper cylinders, which, revolving slowly, and filled with steam, dry the sizing, and render the yarn fit for weaving.

In the fiscal year 1854, the company manufactured and sent to market *two and half millions of yards of cloth*, using in the manufacture thereof about three thousand bales of cotton. In the same year, three hundred and fifty persons were employed in the mill, two hundred and thirteen of whom were females.

Owing to the depressed condition of trade and business generally throughout the country, caused by the financial crisis of 1857, the mill suspended operations in the fall of the year, and did not resume the same until the 28th of December, 1858.

**BRANT'S CITY HALL.**—This building was erected in 1856 by John H. Brant, Esq., a wealthy citizen of the borough. It is intended for a hotel and restaurant on the European plan, with commodious rooms for a theatre, concerts, public lectures, &c. At the term of Court in April, 1858, the building was regularly licensed as a hotel, and will be occupied as such in 1859.

The hall adjoins the Court House, with a front of fifty-two feet on Market street, and a depth of one hundred and eighty feet. It is built of brick, four stories high; the first story of which is eighteen feet, the second twenty-two feet, the third fourteen feet, and the fourth twelve feet. An observatory surmounts the roof of the building, the top of which is one hundred feet from the pavement, and affords a fine view of the town and surrounding country.

The front of the building is of novel design and construction, being composed of open vestibules, with colonades of brick pillars painted in imitation of marble, on each story. These vestibules are twenty-five feet deep, and run the entire width of the building. The first is attained by a flight of marble steps from the pavement, and the others by stair-cases rising at each and leading to the centre of the next. The floor of the first is tessellated with small octagonal shaped yellow and black tiles. The main building is entered on each of the stories from the vestibules by large double doors in the centre, and smaller doors at each end. The walls of the first story are twenty-two inches thick, and those of the upper stories eighteen inches.

The building contains two rooms, which, including the vestibules, are one hundred and twenty feet long, and fifty-two feet wide; two rooms fifty feet square, and two twenty-two by fifty feet, besides a number of smaller size in the rear part of the building, intended for family use.

The room devoted to theatrical purposes contains a commo-



dious stage, with a great variety of handsome scenery, and in fact all the other appointments of a first class theatre. It will seat comfortably an audience of about eight hundred persons. It was inaugurated in the winter of 1856-7, by a theatrical company from Philadelphia, under the management of Mr. Thos. J. Worrel.

The basement of the building is partitioned off into apartments, and intended for a restaurant.

---

**THE MASONIC HALL, (EXCHANGE.)**—The Masonic Hall, more commonly called the Exchange, situated in Walnut street, between Third street and Rasberry alley, was erected in 1827 by Samuel Holman, Esq., architect, for Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, A. Y. M., of Harrisburg, which body occupied it for several years, when, owing to financial troubles, it was seized and sold by the Sheriff, to satisfy the claims of creditors.

It is a brick edifice, partially in the Romanesque style, two stories high, with an attic, basement, and capacious cellar; the whole occupying a space of about seventy-five feet front, and a depth of about forty-four feet. The eve of the roof in front is surmounted with wooden railing and a central entablature, from which rise pointed turrets, all constructed of the same material.

Open vestibules, fifteen feet long by nine feet wide, occur in front on the first and second stories. The main entrance to the building is attained through the one on the first story by means of a flight of granite steps, with iron railing, rising from the pavement. It is paved with brick, and surmounted with an irregular arch of fancy wood work. That on the second story has a railing and colonade surmounted with small arches, likewise of wood. The interior of the building contains a number of capacious rooms, one of which, on the second story, is used at present as an Odd Fellows' Lodge. When owned by the Ma-

sons, the entire building, excepting the basement, was devoted to the purposes of that society. The structure has a very pleasing appearance, and is much admired by strangers visiting the borough. It is owned at present by Michael Burke, Esq.

---

**THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD DEPOT.**—This extensive building stands on the west bank of the Pennsylvania canal, between Market and Chestnut streets, and is owned by the Harrisburg and Lancaster railroad company, but is leased and occupied by the Pennsylvania railroad company.

A premium of \$200 was awarded for the plan of the structure to Joseph C. Hoxie, Esq., architect, of Philadelphia, who, with Stephen D. M'Calla, of Harrisburg, subsequently contracted to build it for the sum of \$46,713.

The architectural style of the building is Italian. It is four hundred feet in length by one hundred and three feet in width, exclusive of projections, the latter making the front one hundred and twenty-two feet. The side walls are twenty-two feet, and the end walls thirty-four feet high, except the two-story projections, which are forty-six feet high from the railroad track. The building is surmounted with two towers; that on the front is seventy-two feet, and that on the side sixty-four feet high. The ends of the structure have a very picturesque appearance.

The walls are of stone and brick. The roof is constructed with the patent truss, and covered with galvanized iron.

The building contains a dining saloon calculated to seat from two hundred and fifty to three hundred persons; ladies' and gentlemen's receptions rooms; water closets; and a number of offices, including one for the magnetic telegraph owned by the company.

The structure was completed in 1857, at a cost of \$58,266 20, being \$11,543 20 over the contract price. The first train of cars passed through it on the 1st of August, 1857.

**LEBANON VALLEY RAILROAD DEPOT.**—A depot for the Lebanon Valley railroad is now in course of erection on the western side of Market street, between the canal and Canal street. It will be of frame, nineteen feet high in the clear, ninety feet wide, and three hundred feet long, fronting on Canal street. The roof will be arched, and constructed after Howe's patent, which combines strength and beauty. It will contain three railroad tracks, and be lighted by upwards of forty windows. The main passenger entrance will be upon Canal street, and fronting on that thoroughfare will be a ticket office, ladies' room, gentlemen's room, baggage apartment, and all the essentials of a first class depot.

---

**HARRISBURG CEMETERY.**—For the following facts relative to the first organization of the Harrisburg Cemetery company, the compiler is indebted to a report published by the Managers in September, 1845 :

“In the autumn of 1843 the following paper was drafted by Henry Buehler, Esq., and presented to the gentlemen who have subscribed the same in the order of their signatures. After a number of meetings on the subject, James M'Cormick, Esq., consented to be considered as one of the original subscribers, and is named in the law incorporating the association, although his signature is not affixed to the subjoined :

We, the undersigned, hereby agree (provided ten responsible persons join in the proposition,) to purchase and enclose from ten to fifteen acres of land, in the vicinity of the borough of Harrisburg, for the purpose of establishing a public cemetery ; the location, price, &c., to be approved of by a majority of the ten. After the incorporation of a company for the purpose, we will agree to convey to the constituted authorities thereof, the said land, with the provision that it be laid off into suitable

burial lots, both for congregations and for individual families; and that a title be made to each of the ten persons hereby associated, for one family burial lot, free of any expense,\* the choice thereof to be made prior to any sales, and to be made in the order of the signatures hereto; and also, that the remainder of the lots be sold, from time to time, to such persons as may desire to purchase. The original cost, with interest, to be paid to the ten purchasers out of the proceeds of the first sales, and that the proceeds of all sales thereafter, in all time to come, be applied exclusively to the improvement of the cemetery grounds, or roads leading thereto. Witness our hands and seals at Harrisburg, the 16th day of October, 1843.

HENRY WALTERS,	HAMILTON ALRICKS,
JOHN ROBERTS,	JAMES PEACOCK,
HENRY BUEHLER,	VALENTINE HUMMEL,
HERMAN ALRICKS,	JOHN C. BUCHER,
LUTHER REILY,	WILLIAM DOCK."

At a meeting of the above named gentlemen, held October 30, 1843, a committee, consisting of John Roberts, Dr. Luther Reily, Valentine Hummel and Hamilton Alricks, was appointed for the purpose of ascertaining locations suitable for the purposes of a cemetery, and the prices at which the land could be obtained. This committee viewed and reported favorable to two pieces of ground, one on the hill of Mr. Allison, and the other being parts of the lands of Henry Herr, John Seales and John P. Shoop; whereupon, it was directed to make drafts or plots of the grounds necessary for the contemplated cemetery, including the dell on the line of Herr and Seales property, show-

\*This provision was subsequently abandoned by the members of the corporation, who are the persons above named, and each member consented to pay for the lot selected for himself, in the same manner, and on the same terms, that strangers were required to pay, reserving only to themselves the right of selection before sale, in the order in which their names appear above.

ing the quantity of lands desired from each, and also a plot of the Allison property.

These plots were accordingly made and exhibited to the association, which selected the plot of ground including the lands of Messrs. Herr, Seales and Shoop; and a committee consisting of Dr. Riley, Judge Bucher and Hamilton Alricks was appointed to contract, on the best terms possible, with those gentlemen, for the ground contained in the aforesaid plot.

While this committee, however, were negotiating for the purchase of the ground, a road was laid out through a part of it by an order of the Court of Quarter Sessions, which induced an alteration in the views of the Association, and the committee was directed to purchase the ground for the cemetery of Henry Herr alone, which was done accordingly on the 27th of February, 1844. This ground was subsequently enlarged by another purchase from Mr. Herr, and the grant of about half an acre from Mr. Sales.

The company were incorporated under the name, style and title of the "Harrisburg Cemetery Association," by an act of Assembly passed the 14th of February, 1845, and organized by appointing Henry Walters, President, and John Roberts, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Association proceeded at once to improve the grounds by laying it off into lots and avenues, and surrounding the whole with a substantial picket fence, with the necessary gateways, and on the 30th day of September, 1845, in the presence of a large concourse of people, the cemetery was duly dedicated to its purposes. Rev. John F. Mesick made the opening prayer, and the Rev. George M'Cartney the closing prayer. The dedicating address was delivered by Rev. William R. De Witt.

On the first day of October, 1845, Gen. James Steel was buried in lot No. 35, section F, aged eighty-two years—his being the first interment in the cemetery; and on the 23rd of same month, an infant of William H. Kepner was buried in lot

No. 44, of same section, being the second interment. Thus in these first two burials the two extremes of life were embraced.

Since the period of these interments many additional ones have been made, and the grounds tastefully ornamented with a profusion of shrubbery and "monumental marble."

The residence of the Keeper's family is at the east end of the Cemetery. Its style is Gothic, two stories high, built of brick, painted and cost \$2,200.

We append a list of the officers of the Association for the year 1858.

A. K. Fahnestock, President and Treasurer; John Roberts, Secretary and Superintendent; D. W. Gross, Dr. John Fager, Hamilton Alricks and William Colder, Jr., Managers; Wm. Putt, Keeper.

---

**THE STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL.**—The following description of this extensive establishment is derived principally from the several reports made by the trustees and superintendent to the Legislature :

The establishment of an hospital for the relief of the insane poor of the State claimed the attention of the philanthropic and benevolent at an early day. The first movement on the subject was made by the philanthropic citizens of Philadelphia, who held several public meetings, and adopted a memorial, which was numerously signed and presented to the Legislature at the sessions of 1838-9. This memorial, with others from different counties, was referred to a committee of five members of the House of Representatives, of which Hon. Joseph Konigsmacher was chairman.

This committee presented a report embodying a large amount of information relative to the condition of the insane throughout the State; and a bill authorizing the erection of a State Lunatic Asylum, was prepared and passed both Houses, but did not receive the sanction of the Governor.

Subsequently an act was passed March 4th, 1841, authorizing the Governor to appoint three commissioners, upon whom was devolved the duty of selecting a site, and superintending the erection of a suitable building.

The spot selected was on the river Schuylkill, about two miles from Gray's Ferry, below Philadelphia, and preparations had been made for commencing the erection when their operations were suspended.

But the subject was not permitted to rest, and was still kept before the public attention until, in the year 1844, Miss D. L. Dix, in the prosecution of the benevolent work in which she had been so long, zealously, and untiringly engaged, having visited and examined the alms-houses and jails throughout the State, presented to the Legislature a memorial, setting forth the condition of the insane throughout the State, and earnestly urging upon them the necessity and the duty of providing some means for their treatment and proper maintenance.

Acting in accordance with the suggestions thus made, the Legislature, in the spring of 1845, appointed Jacob M. Halde-man, Luther Reily, Hugh Campbell, Charles B. Trego, Joseph Konigmacher, commissioners, for the erection of an hospital, to be located within two miles of the borough of Harrisburg.

The commissioners thus appointed not feeling themselves authorized to enter on the duties of their appointment until further action of the Legislature, a supplementary act was passed in the spring of 1848, appointing three additional commissioners, Aaron Bombaugh, John A. Weir, and James Fox, and so modifying the original act that they were willing to enter on the duties assigned them.

A farm of one hundred and thirty acres was purchased about a mile and a half north of Harrisburg, and the work was commenced in the summer of 1848, according to a plan furnished by John Haviland, architect, of Philadelphia, to whom also the contract for the erection of the building was given.

The corner-stone of the Hospital was laid by Gov. Johnston on the 7th of April, 1849, and the building was delivered by the architect and contractor to the commissioners on the 19th of June, 1851.

No suitable accommodations having been provided, in the building thus erected, for the most violent and noisy class of patients, it was deemed advisable to erect such as early as practicable, and a contract was made with Messrs. Holman & Simon, of Harrisburg, for the erection of these additional buildings. The work on these was commenced early in the summer, and completed at an early day.

The Hospital building consists of a centre building and wings extending in a linear direction on each side; each wing is so arranged that the second projection recedes twenty feet behind the first, and the third the same distance behind the second, so that the second and third projections of the wings on each side of the centre building are open at both ends, which renders them light and cheerful, and insures, at all times, a free natural ventilation.

The centre building is of three stories above the basement or ground floor, has a large Tuscan portico with a flight of twenty steps to the main entrance, and is surmounted by a large dome, from which a very extensive view of the surrounding country is obtained.

Along the northern line of the landscape, in its whole length, extend the Blue Mountains at a distance of five miles, and almost directly north from the Hospital is the opening through which the Susquehanna river forces its way; and spanning the river at this point is the large bridge of the Pennsylvania railroad company, forming a very prominent and beautiful feature in the view, while beyond it, and reposing as it were at the foot of the mountain, is the village of Dauphin.

The Susquehanna river is in full view, from the point where



it appears to break its way through the mountains, until it is hidden by the hills below Harrisburg.

To the south-west is Harrisburg, the whole of which, with the State Capitol, the cotton factory, the reservoir of the water-works, and the bridges across the Susquehanna, is distinctly seen.

The prospect is bounded on all sides by hills and mountains, and embraces parts of the counties of Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland, York, Adams, Lancaster and Lebanon.

The Pennsylvania railroad and the Pennsylvania canal pass along the front line of the Hospital, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, and the passage of the cars on the former, and of the boats on the latter, forms an agreeable and diversifying feature.

In the basement of the centre building, which is raised three steps above the ground, are, on one side of the entrance hall, the apartments for the steward; and on the other, those for the matron; and in the rear, and separated by a hall at right angles to the hall of entrance, are the kitchens, one for each side of the house.

On the main floors are the parlors for visitors, one on each side of the hall of entrance; and in the rear, and separated from them by a cross hall, are the steward's office, and the assistant physician's room, with the shop or medical office between them.

In the second story are the apartments of the superintendent, and in the third is the chapel, occupying the front half of the building, and in the rear of it a number of rooms designed for chambers.

In the attic are the tanks for the supply of water to the Hospital, three in number, and each holding about three thousand gallons of water. The water is thrown into these tanks by steam power, and is distributed from them to all parts of the Hospital.

The wings immediately adjoining the centre on either side are

of three stories, including the basement. In the basement are the accommodations for those employed in the kitchens and the other domestic arrangements of the house, and also for those engaged in out-door duties.

The two other stories have wards for the patients, and in each ward arc, on one side of the hall, which is ten feet wide, a dormitory for six or eight beds, six single dormitories, an attendant's room immediately adjoining the dormitory, and a parlor; on the other side are the dining room, with a large closet attached, a clothing room, a bath room and water closet, and four rooms of larger size than the single rooms on the other side of the hall. On each side of the hall are stairways, one at each end of the ward, which are of iron, and lead to the ground floor, so as to admit of free communication with either ward without disturbance of the other. The food is sent up to these wards directly from the kitchen by means of a dumb-waiter; and a speaking tube, and a bell communicating from the dining room to the kitchen obviates the necessity of the attendants leaving the ward for any purpose.

The second projections of each wing are of three stories, with wards on each story.

On one side of the hall are ten single dormitories and a large parlor, and on the other side are the associated dormitory, with an attendants' room immediately adjoining, a bath room and water closet, a clothing room, one large room, and the dining room.

At the point of junction of these two projections, the first and second, and raised a story above them, is the infirmary on each side, consisting of one large airy room, calculated for ten or twelve beds, with an attendants' room immediately adjoining, and five other rooms, exclusive of a bath-room and water closet.

The third projection of each wing, intended for the most violent and noisy of each sex, is of two stories. These wards are arranged on the same general plan with the other wards,

except that at the extreme end of each building, and in both stories are short halls, on either side of the main hall, with two rooms in each, designed for the most noisy of each sex. Each of these wards has accommodations for fourteen patients and their attendants, and in each ward a bath-room and water closet.

In all the windows in the wings, the upper sash is of cast iron, glazed and stationary, and the lower sash is wooden, and made to raise, with a wrought iron guard opposite to it.

In the rear of the centre building, at the distance of eighty feet, is the building for the bake-house, the wash-house and ironing-room, &c. In the cellar, which is excavated thirteen feet, are placed the boilers for generating the steam for warming the Hospital, a boiler for generating steam for a steam engine, for heating the water for bathing and for cooking, with sufficient room for the storage of one hundred and fifty tons of coal.

On the ground floor, nearest the centre building, is the bake-house, with a large perpetual oven; and the other part of same floor, and separated from the bake-house by a brick partition, is the wash-house. In the wash-house is a small steam engine of eight horse power, which is designed to drive a steam pump and also all the machinery of the wash-house.

The washing apparatus consists of a large set of fulling stocks, a large steaming tub, a large rinsing wheel, a large wringing machine and frames on which to hang the clothes to be dried. On the floor of the drying room are laid a number of steam pipes, through which the exhaust steam from the engine passes and imparts to the room the necessary degree of heat. The clothes, after being washed and dried, are raised by means of a dumb waiter into the ironing-room in the second story. The heavier articles are ironed by being passed between two highly polished cast iron cylinders, heated by steam and made to revolve by means of a belt connected with the machinery below.

In the attic of this building are four iron tanks, holding collectively twenty-two thousand gallons of water, raised into them

by the steam pump, which derives its supply from a large eight inch cast iron pipe by means of which the water is conducted from the creek to the reservoir of the large hydraulic ram supplying the tanks in the main building.

The Hospital is heated throughout by steam generated in two cylinder boilers, each forty feet long and forty inches in diameter. The steam generated in these is conveyed by an eight inch cast iron pipe through an archway connecting the two buildings, into the hot air chambers, situated under the whole length of the Hospital building. At the distance of one hundred and twenty feet from the boilers, the main steam pipe branches, one branch leading to the north, and the other to the south wing of the building.

From these branches, at distances of sixteen and twenty-four feet, the steam is conveyed into a series of three-quarter inch wrought iron pipe, called a radiator, and after passing through all the length of the pipe composing a radiator, varying from five hundred to seven hundred feet, according to the size of the radiator, it is conveyed into a four inch cast iron pipe laid along the floor of the hot air chamber, and by this pipe returned to the boilers.

By this arrangement the steam is diffused through sixteen thousand feet of pipe, and the temperature of the hot air chambers is maintained at varying elevations and inversely to the temperature of the external atmosphere. The temperature of the wards can thus be maintained between 60° to 70° F. even in the coldest weather, and during the prevalence of very high north-west winds, to which, from its elevated position, the Hospital is particularly exposed, and which sweep with great force along the whole front of the building.

The heating apparatus and the laundry arrangements were arranged with great care and attention by Messrs. Birkinbine & Trotter, of Philadelphia, who have executed their work in a highly creditable manner.

The Hospital is lighted with gas brought from the works of the Harrisburg gas company.

The above description comprehended the arrangements of the establishment in the first year of its existence. Since that time, however, various additions and improvements, suggested by time and experience, have been made.

Buildings for museums and reading rooms were erected in 1854. They are built of brick, cemented on the outside, and are forty-two feet long by twenty-five feet wide, and fifteen feet six inches to the square. A portico runs nearly the whole length of the front, from which a very pleasant view is obtained of the landscape in front. The roof is of tin, and the centre is raised into an ornamental structure, so as to afford the means of giving abundant light to the interior. The buildings are heated by a hot-air furnace placed in the cellar. Being designed as ornaments to the grounds, as well as for objects of interest and amusement to the patients by the curiosities, &c., to be placed in them, they have been made as handsome and ornamental as compatible with their design and the amount of funds at command. They are placed one on either side of the front of the building, easily accessible from the wards of the sex for which they are intended. One of these buildings contain the State geological cabinet.

A prominent imperfection of the first arrangements was the very inefficient supply of water for cooking, baths, water closets and other domestic purposes, but especially as a means of extinguishing fire, should such a terrible calamity at any time befall the institution. The first mode employed was a very large hydraulic ram, but which, with its connections, was soon shown to be entirely inadequate, although it had answered a good purpose during the progress of the building. To remedy this defect, a pump was placed near the creek, and by means of a very long piston rod, worked by the steam engine in the wash-house, was made to raise one thousand gallons per hour, and which, by being

kept constantly in operation, furnished enough for the ordinary purposes of the institution, but none for any extraordinary emergency, nor the slightest protection in case of fire. Under these circumstances, plans were prepared for permanent works of such a character that an abundant supply might be relied on at all times. These works are placed in the ravine to the south-east of the Hospital buildings, and so situated as to receive the water from two constant streams. The dam or basin is of a pyriform shape, and capable of containing about four hundred thousand gallons of water.

From the imperfect practical acquaintance with the very important subject of heating and ventilation possessed by the architect, many serious errors were committed in the original arrangements of the building, which have since been properly remedied.

The police of the establishment is mild and parental. The patients are well fed and clothed, and allowed ample opportunities for healthful exercise.

Religious services are regularly maintained on the Sabbath during the entire year. Evening prayers are also regularly kept up during the year, to which all who feel inclined are invited to come. Attendance on these religious exercises is at all times voluntary, and many patients attend regularly, and are gratified and benefited by them.

The Hospital contains various implements for the amusement of the patients, such as musical instruments, violins and flutes, two polyoramas, a large dioptric magic lantern with a number of slides, a small magic lantern to be used in the wards, kaleidoscopes, backgammon boards, and a number of other games, a large number of books, engravings, and two large walnut book-cases, each capable of containing two hundred and fifty volumes, and two globes.

The garden of the establishment is extensive, and provides the vegetables for the table, and a large surplus which is sold

annually. The grounds fronting the building have been beautifully laid out, and are in an advanced state of embellishment.

The capacity of the present Hospital is for three hundred patients, one hundred and fifty of each sex; and this number is now regarded by the best authorities as quite as large as should ever be collected in one building.

The number of patients admitted during the year 1857 was 143—males, 76; females, 67.

The number discharged during the year was 126—males, 76; females, 50—leaving in the Hospital, on December 31, 1857, 250 patients; of whom 130 were males, and 120 were females.

Of those discharged, the number of restored was 25; improved, 32; stationary, 44; died, 25.

Adding these results to the tables of previous years, we have the following table :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Restored, . . . .	79	59	138
Improved, . . . .	92	62	154
Stationary, . . . .	137	86	223
Died, . . . .	85	48	133
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	398	255	648
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The receipts of the Hospital for the year 1857 was \$66,073 65, and the expenditures \$64,321 98, leaving a balance of \$1,751 67 in its treasury.

We subjoin a list of the officers of the Hospital in 1858 :

Board of Trustees—Thomas S. Kirkbride, M. D., Frederick Watts, A. G. Waterman, A. J. Jones, A. O. Hiester, Hamilton Alricks, George Dock, M. D., George W. Porter, M. D., John L. Atlee, M. D.

John Curwen, M. D., Superintendent and Physician; William R. DeWitt, M. D., and S. S. Schultz, M. D., Assistant Physicians; Joel Hinckley, Steward; Mary Ann Wilt, Matron; John A. Weir, Treasurer, Harrisburg.

**SOUTH WARD PUBLIC SCHOOL HOUSE.**—This elegant structure was erected in 1858, on the site previously occupied by the old Bethel Church, in Mulberry street, between Front and Second streets. It is two stories high, sixty-four feet long and fifty-four feet wide, and contains on each story a vestibule eight feet wide, two school rooms, each twenty-five feet wide by fifty feet long, and two recitation rooms, each ten by twelve feet, besides a small room, also ten by twelve feet, in the middle of the second story vestibule for the accommodation of the school directors. There are also two closets in each of the school rooms, designed as receptacles for the hats of the pupils during school hours. The base of the walls in every room are covered to the height of three feet with pine wainscoting, to protect the plastering from the mischievous hands and feet of the scholars. A capacious and well ventilated cellar occupies the entire base of the building. From the eaves of the roof of the main building to the pavement is thirty-seven feet, and from the apex of the central pediment in front, about forty-four feet. A handsome square cupola of wood, twenty-two feet high, surmounts the forward part of the structure. The front stands back from the line of the street a distance of about twenty feet, and the space thus made vacant, is paved and enclosed with a neat and substantial iron railing. There are three entrances to the building—the principal one in front, and one at each of the sides, at the front end. The former is attained by a flight of granite steps. There are inserted in the bricks of the front end two small marble slabs—one at the eastern corner, on which are engraved the figures "1858," and one above the arch of the centre door, containing the names of the then Board of School Directors, and the architect and builder. The architect of the building was Mr. Luther Simon, and its builder Mr. Peter Bernheisel. The brick work was laid by Messrs. Curzen & Cleckner, all of whom deserve much credit for the manner in which they performed their respective duties.



## THE CHURCHES OF HARRISBURG.

**GERMAN REFORMED SALEM CHURCH.**—Previous to the erection of any regular church building in the borough, the citizens occasionally worshiped in a small one story log school house, which stood at the foot of Capitol Hill, at the corner of Third and Walnut streets. The community at that early day being made up of all denominations, the original subscription paper for "the first church," read for the "use of the subscribers," and long after the erection of the house, clergymen of different denominations officiated in it, by permission, as opportunity occurred. The undertaking was, however, by those who professed the doctrines of Ulric Zwingli and Martin Luther; and the church was owned and occupied statedly, only by the German Reformed and Evangelical Lutheran congregations, and was erected on a lot given by John Harris\* to them for that purpose, situated at the corner of Chesnut and Third streets, extending two hundred and ten feet on the latter street to Cherry alley. The "first church" stood until the year 1854, at the corner of Third street and Cherry alley. It was built of logs, subsequently weather-boarded, two stories high, with a front of thirty-five feet five inches, and a depth of thirty feet five inches. The original subscription for the erection of this church, reads as follows :

"We, the subscribers, do each of us promise to pay, or cause to be paid, unto John Norton, Christian Gunckel, George Redig and Henry Bruner, or their order, on demand, the sum annexed to each of our names, respectively, to be held and appropriated by the said John Norton, Christian Gunckel, George Redig and Henry Bruner, in purchasing materials for, and in building a

\*After the death of Mr. Harris, his heirs released, for five shillings, all their right and title to the lot, to the trustees of the Reformed and Lutheran churches, as will appear from the record in the Recorder's office.

Church and School House, in some convenient part of the town of Harrisburg, for the use of the subscribers. In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, with the sums annexed, this 12th day of March, Anno Domini, 1787."

[Here follow the names of persons whose subscriptions ranged from £2 to 1 shilling.]

From the first church book in possession of the German Reformed Church, it appears that the first pastor of the said church was Rev. A. Hautz, and that Rev. T. D. Schaeffer, who then resided in or near Carlisle, preached statedly for the Lutheran congregation of Harrisburg. The first date in the book alluded to is October 18, 1788, and is in the handwriting of Rev. T. D. Schaeffer; and the entries on the second page are evidently in the handwriting of Rev. A. Hautz. Both congregations appear to have been united in their temporal affairs, and all church regulations from the year 1787 to 1795. Rev. A. Hautz was the first stationed pastor of the German Reformed Church, and the first resident pastor settled in Harrisburg. They chose by mutual agreement their own church officers, as appears by the first record of an election held September 12, 1790, which is as follows:

*German Reformed.*—George Hoyer, Henry Bruner, Trustees; Jacob Zollinger, George Hatz, Elders; Jacob Staely, Jacob Welschans, Deacons.

*Lutheran.*—John Dentzel, George Rettig, Trustees; Christian Kunckel, John Hacker, Elders; Michael Von Keuen, John Ebert, Deacon.

The elections of 1792 and 1793, are also recorded. The next congregational entry in the church book is in 1795, and is as follows:

"Im Jahr 1795, wurden die zwey Gemeinden in Harrisburg, naemlich die Reformirt und Lutherisch von einander *Sebarirt*, und waelhten auf Reformirter Seite zum Kirchenrath.

Trustees—George Hoyer, Henrich Brunner; Aeltesten—Ja-

cob Shultz, Simon Schneider; Vorsteher—Henry Liphart, Johannes Pfeiffer.”

The fact of the separation of the two churches in 1795 is further established by the Lutheran church book, which commences in the year 1795—the first entries in which, are made by Rev. Henry Mueller, who had then settled in Harrisburg, as the first stationed pastor of the Lutheran church.

The two congregations, however, still continued to worship in the same building until 1814, when the Lutherans purchased ground in Fourth street, between Market and Chesnut streets, and erected a handsome brick church and school house adjoining.

In 1795 the “old church” was wainscotted, and sundry repairs made; and in 1804 the vestries of the churches did much to render the building comfortable; a pulpit was erected and galleries put up on three sides; the sides were plastered, and the exterior weather-boarded and painted white. These improvements were finished in 1805.

On the 28th of March, 1812, Rev. Philip Glonninger, Geo. Hoyer, Frederick Kelker, Nicholas Ott and Frederick Boas, purchased a lot adjoining the old church property from Joseph Allen, for \$1,400, for the exclusive use of the German Reformed Church. On the 13th of July, 1813, the Lutherans formally proposed a division of the church property, upon certain conditions, to which, however, their Reformed brethren would not agree.

On June 17, 1815, a second proposition was made by the Lutherans, that the German Reformed church should purchase an undivided half of the new Lutheran church, in Fourth street. This occasioned considerable discussion, but the majority of the Reformed disapproved the measure; and the result was, that on the first of April, 1816, the German Reformed congregation purchased for \$1,000, the whole interest of the Lutherans in the old church lot, corner of Third and Chesnut

streets, and buildings thereon erected. On the 3d of July, 1818, the German Reformed congregation became a body corporate, under the title of "The German Reformed Salem Church of Harrisburg." The following are the signers to the articles of incorporation :

*Vestry*.—Christian Schaeffer, John Zinn, Trustees ; George Witherholt, John Kelker, Elders ; John Horter, John S. Weistling, George Kunkel, Jacob Hise, Deacons ; M. Rahm, A. Dorsheimer, George Hoyer, Henry George, Jacob Mish, Jacob Cunkle, Jacob Hoyer, Jacob Bucher, George Snyder, Frederick Beisel, Joseph Doll, John Fleming, Henry Fry, Henry Welshover, Jacob Balsley, Frederick Kelker, David S. Forney, Jacob Steinman, Jacob Greenawalt, Peter Bachman, Jacob Kunkle, Samuel C. Weistling, Jr., Samuel Swartz, Conrad Knepley, Michael Derstein, Nicholas Ott, John Horn, David Beisel, Peter Snyder, Daniel Snyder, John A. Stehley, Members.

On the 15th of January, 1821, a meeting of the members was held in the old church, at which Frederick Kelker presided, and John S. Weistling acted as secretary, at which it was resolved to erect a new church of suitable dimensions, to front on Chestnut street. The following persons were appointed to collect subscriptions for the purpose :

Jacob Bucher, John Kelker, John Zinn, John S. Weistling, Rev. John Winebrenner, John Horter, Frederick Kelker, and Conrad Knepley. Three weeks afterwards, viz : February 5, 1821, the committee reported six thousand and six dollars in cash and subscription, and the vestry were requested to contract for the erection of a new church.

On the 8th of March, 1821, the vestry, by their building committee, Jacob Bucher, John Kelker and John Zinn, contracted with Messrs. Samuel Pool and Henry V. Wilson, for the erection of a brick church, sixty feet front and seventy-five feet deep, to be surmounted with a tower one hundred and ten

feet to the top of the wood work, all to be completed by July 1st, 1822, for the sum of \$8,000.

To carry the plan into execution, the old log school house and the brick house, both of which stood on the church lots, were torn down.

The church building was immediately commenced, and carried on with dispatch. The corner-stone was laid on June 11, 1821, with appropriate ceremonies. On the 21st of June, 1822, the bell, weighing six hundred and sixty-seven pounds, which had been procured in London, at an expense of three hundred and forty-six dollars and fifty-six and a half cents, was taken to the church and placed in the tower. The following inscriptions are upon it: "T. Mears, of London, February, 1822." "May all whom I may summon to the grave, the blessings of a well spent life receive." The church was finished August 1, 1822, and on the fourth day of the same month, dedicated to *Jehovah*. The total cost of the church per settlement made Feb. 15, 1823, was \$8,537 54, exclusive of bell.

No repairs or additions were made to the church property of any importance until 1827, when the "old church" in Third street was altered, by extending an upper floor from the eastern to the western gallery, thus converting the interior into two large rooms. The upper one was used for a long time by the sabbath school, and the lower as a day school. They were subsequently both occupied by the common schools until 1854, when the building was torn down, and four brick dwelling houses erected on its site by the congregation.

In the summer of 1841, the old pulpit of the brick church was removed, and its place supplied by one of modern style; the walls, too, were painted, and sundry other improvements made. In the same year the congregation also erected a spacious lecture room, one story high, twenty-eight by fifty-four feet, with thirteen feet ceiling. This building stands a little in the rear of the church, and has since been extended to Cherry

alley, making a spacious room of twenty-eight by ninety-one feet.

In 1855 the interior of the church was handsomely frescoed by George Seiling, the celebrated Fresco Painter of Reading, and in January, 1856, the splendid organ which now adorns it, purchased from Jardine & Son, New York, was erected.

It is worthy of mention that the "Confirmation table," which in days of old, stood before the pulpit in the first church, now constitutes the altar in the present Sabbath school room, and is in good preservation; around this table were confirmed many of the grandfathers and fathers of the present generation. It is made of black walnut, and has been in use more than seventy years. We append the following memoranda:

Rev. Daniel Gans, pastor. Residence, Chesnut street, between Front and Second, south side. Preaching every Sabbath morning at 10½ o'clock, and at 7 o'clock in the evening. Communion on the second Sabbath of each January, April, July and October. Catechetical class for adults every Monday evening, and for juveniles every Tuesday evening, in the lecture room. Lecture every Wednesday evening. Monthly Concert for Missions the first Monday evening of every month, in the Lecture Room. Choir meets in the church every Saturday evening for rehearsal. The two Sabbath schools meet at 1½, P. M.

---

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.—This congregation worshiped in the same church, which, with their German Reformed brethren, they had united in erecting in 1787, from the period of its erection until 1814, when they purchased a lot on Fourth street, between Market and Chesnut streets, and erected thereon a handsome brick church, and adjoining the same, in 1822, a large two story brick school house. In 1816 they sold their interest in the old church property on Third street to the German Reformed church for one thousand dol-

lars. The first record in their oldest church book is in 1795, by the Rev. Henry Mueller, who was their first stationed pastor. To the articles of church government, written out at length in the first part of said book, the first few pages of which are unfortunately lost, the following signatures appear. These persons may, therefore, be considered as the founders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Harrisburg, viz :

Benjamin Kurtz, Henry Sailor, George Pfeiffer, Matthias Hutman, George Jauss, George Hartman, Frederick Youse, Johannes Ebert, John Shoch, George Zeigler, Martin Krieger, George Seidel, George Scheile, George Emerich, Peter Walter, Casper Schmidt, Stephen Horning, George Buks, Balthazer Sees, John Fager, Peter Bricker, Christopher Suess, John Mytinger, Bernhard Geiger, Peter Brua.

The church and school house erected in 1814, were destroyed by fire on Sabbath evening, October 20, 1838. [See page 206.] It is worthy of note, that on the morning following, before the smouldering ruins were extinguished, the then pastor, Rev. Samuel Sprecher, together with the vestry, and a number of the members of the church, met on the spot, appointed committees and adopted other measures for the speedy erection of the large and beautiful church which the congregation now occupy. Universal sympathy was felt, and liberal donations were made by sister denominations. In 1839 the building was finished, and dedicated to the worship of God on the 10th day of November of that year.

The building is sixty-four feet front and eighty-four feet deep, and has a large lecture and several Sabbath school rooms in the basement story. It is of brick, covered with composition, and painted in imitation of marble. The cupola contains two fine bells.

The pastors of the church from its foundation up to the year 1843, preached both in the German and English languages, with the exception of the first two, who ministered in the German language alone. In consequence of the increase of both the

German and English branches of the church, an amicable separation was effected in 1843, when the German portion organized a new church.

Rev. Charles A. Hay, pastor. Residence in Walnut street, between Third and Fourth. Preaching every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock in the morning, and 7 o'clock in the evening. Lecture on Wednesday evening. Sabbath school at 1½, P. M.

---

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—In the year 1794, the Presbyterians in this neighborhood attended at, and were to a great extent united with the Paxton church, a short distance from the town. Paxton and Derry churches were organized on the 15th day of November, A. D. 1732. The first pastor of these two churches was Rev. Mr. Bertram, a native of Ireland. He was succeeded, in 1737, by Rev. John Elder, also from Ireland, who officiated until his death in 1792.

After Harrisburg was laid out in 1785, the population increased, and the residents found considerable difficulty in attending church at Paxton. They accordingly invited travelling preachers to officiate for them on several occasions. Rev. Mr. Elder regarded Harrisburg as justly in his district, and did not favor this movement.

In 1786, the citizens of Harrisburg and others united in a petition to the Presbytery of Carlisle, then recently formed, to be organized into a distinct body. The facts of the case were laid before the Presbytery, both by Rev. Mr. Elder and by a representation of the citizens. A committee was appointed to investigate the matter, with power to grant the prayer of the petitioners if it should be thought advisable. The committee consisted of Dr. Davidson and Mr. Waugh.

In June, 1787, the committee offered articles of agreement, one of which was that the Presbytery of Paxton should have two places of worship—one at Harrisburg, and one at Paxton.



The articles were accepted with permission to call a colleague to Mr. Elder, but notwithstanding their existence, Rev. Mr. Elder continued sole pastor up to the time of his death.

In 1794, the church in Harrisburg was organized, and Moses Gillmore, Adam Boyd and Samuel Weir ordained as ruling elders thereof.

After Rev. Mr. Elder's death, Rev. N. R. Snowden was installed as pastor over the congregation of Paxton, Derry and Harrisburg. In October, 1795, he applied for a dissolution of his pastoral relations with the Derry church. This was granted. In April, 1796, Rev. Mr. Snowden officiated at Harrisburg alone, but he was afterwards permitted to preach at Middletown.

In 1799, a room in the Court House was obtained for worship, the congregation having previously occupied an apartment over the old jail.

On the 7th of June, 1804, the congregation purchased a lot at the corner of Second street and Cherry alley, for the sum of £400, and contracted soon after for the erection of a church with Mr. Glass. At what time the corner-stone of the first edifice was laid, the compiler could not ascertain. It was opened for Divine worship on Sunday and Monday, the 12th and 13th of February, 1809, at which time Rev. James Buchanan was installed as pastor, Rev. Mr. Snowden having retired from his pastoral relation with the congregation on the 25th of June, 1805. The house was built of brick, forty-five by sixty feet; and in 1816 an addition was added to the front, which was occupied by the Sabbath school and used as a lecture room.

Rev. James Buchanan continued pastor of the church until September 10, 1815, when he likewise retired. The church then remained without a regular pastor for a few years. On the second Sabbath of September, 1818, Rev. William R. DeWitt, of the Presbytery of New York, delivered his first sermon to the congregation. He shortly afterwards received a call from the congregation, which he accepted; and he was regularly installed

pastor of the church on the 12th of November, 1819. He still continues in this relation.

The congregation obtained a legal charter in 1818. In 1838 the division took place in the general church. The Presbytery of Harrisburg was formed in connection with the New School General Assembly, and this church became a part of that Presbytery.

During the winter of 1840-1, the trustees repurchased of the heirs of Robert Sloan a part of the original church lot, which had been sold to that gentleman, and on which he had erected a three story brick house. In the spring of 1841 the old church was torn down, and a beautiful new edifice erected, which was dedicated to Divine worship on the 13th of February, 1842. It was constructed of brick, covered with white cement. Its dimensions were sixty-three by eighty-four feet, and adorned in front with a portico, supported by pillars of the Corinthian order—an exact copy of the front of the celebrated Choragic monument of Lysicrates, at Athens. The basement story was above ground, and contained a lecture room, a Sabbath school room, and a studio designed for the pastor. The audience chamber, with the galleries, was capable of seating about one thousand persons. The pulpit was of fine polished Italian marble, and the whole structure was regarded as one of the most handsome in the borough.

In July, 1854, Rev. Thomas H. Robinson was called to act as a colleague of Rev. Dr. DeWitt, and on the 21st of January, 1855, he was duly installed.

On the night of the 31st of March, 1858, a fire (the work of an incendiary) broke out in a small stable in the rear of the church, which spread with great rapidity to several adjoining frame buildings, during the conflagration of which the heavy wood cornice of the church caught fire, which quickly communicated to the roof, and before the progress of the flames could be arrested the entire building was destroyed.

After the destruction of the church building, a part of the congregation withdrew, and formed another church.

The original congregation, under the pastoral charge of Revs. DeWitt and Robinson, worship in Brant's City Hall, Market street. Preaching every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock in the morning, and 7 o'clock in the evening. Lecture every Wednesday evening. Monthly concert of prayer on the evening of the first Monday of every month; and prayer meeting every Monday evening, in the Lutheran church. Sabbath school at 1½ o'clock in the afternoon, in the upper room of the Court House.

A splendid new building for the accommodation of the congregation is now (1858) in progress of construction at the south-east corner of Second street and Market Square, under the direction of the architect, Mr. J. C. Hoxie, of Philadelphia. From the plans and specifications furnished by this gentleman, we find that the general style of the structure is a rich Romanesque, in size one hundred and thirty-three feet by sixty-six, exclusive of projections. The front of the building will be on Second street. It will have three entrances from that street, with one at the side, leading to the lecture and Sabbath school rooms, which occupy a distinct part of the building in the rear. There are two turrets on the front part of the building, besides the steeple, which will be located on the upper corner of the building, and will be one hundred and ninety-three feet in height. A number of minarets will adorn the sides, all of which will combine to give the building a very rich appearance. There will be a clock with four faces on the steeple, ninety feet above the ground.

The audience room will be seventy-six by fifty-eight feet in size, and contain one hundred and forty pews, the pews to be a good distance apart. There will be no gallery, except a small one for the choir, and the ceiling of the church will be ornamented by paneling and stucco work. The height of the walls, at the lower corners of the roof, will be thirty-two feet,

and to the cone of the roof in front, fifty-six feet. The main Sabbath school room will be over the lecture room, before spoken of, in the rear part of the building. The cappings of the windows, (of which there will be a large number,) turrets, &c., will be either of brown stone or iron. The entire cost of the building is expected to be from \$20,000 to \$25,000, and when completed it will undoubtedly be one of the finest structures in the interior of the State.

The ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the above building took place on Tuesday afternoon, the 26th of October, 1858, in the presence of a large collection of people. We condense from the daily papers of the borough a description of the ceremonies observed on that occasion :

The hour appointed for the ceremony was two o'clock, but before that time a large number of persons were in attendance. For the accommodation of ladies, chairs had been placed upon a platform constructed over the cellar of the building. Upon this platform a stand had been erected for the officiating clergymen, and a portion of the space was reserved for members of the Sunday School, and young ladies from the Seminary of Mrs. Dickson, and the Pennsylvania Female College. Every available part of the neighboring pavements was crowded with spectators, and many of the windows in the square also had their occupants. A few minutes after two o'clock the reverend gentlemen intending to participate mounted the platform. The proceedings were opened by anthem singing by the choir. Rev Mr. Hutchins then delivered a fervent and appropriate prayer, invoking the blessing of Providence upon the enterprise, and asking that the devotion of the members might never diminish.

A portion of the 15th Parish hymn was then sung, commencing :

“ Glory to God on high,  
Let Heaven and Earth reply—  
Praise ye his name.

His love and grace adore,  
Who all our sorrows bore,  
Sing loud forevermore.  
Worthy the Lamb."

Rev. Wm. R. DeWitt next proceeded to read from a manuscript a recital of the principal events, in chronological order, which had marked the existence of the church from the beginning of the eighteenth century to the present time; at the conclusion of which he proceeded to the corner-stone, and after seeing that the same was properly adjusted, he was handed a Mason's mallet, with which he gave the stone a slight blow, and then declared it laid.

The stone was properly squared, and contained on one side a cavity about twelve inches in length by five inches in height and depth.

In this cavity the following articles were placed, enclosed in a leaden box:—A copy of the Bible; Confession of Faith; Psalm and Hymn Book; History of the Church; Covenant of the Church; list of pastors, elders and members of the church, trustees and building committee, architect, contractor and builders; the various religious periodicals; a copy of the *Daily* and *Weekly Telegraph*, *Union* and *Vaterland Wæchter*; and also copies of the Philadelphia and New York papers.

The concluding ceremonies were as follows:—Prayer by Rev. Dr. DeWitt. Music by children of the Sunday School. Hymn 530, Parish hymns. Address by Rev. E. E. Adams, of Philadelphia. Address by Rev. T. H. Robinson. Collection. Music—Hymn 132, Parish hymns. Doxology sung by the congregation. Benediction.

The newly organized church, at present under no particular pastoral charge, worship in the State Senate Chamber. Preaching every Sabbath, at 10 o'clock in the morning and 6 in the evening. Prayer-meeting every Thursday evening at 7½ o'clock, in the lecture room of the Baptist church, corner of Second

and Pine streets. Monthly concert of prayer for missions, on the first Monday evening of every month, in the same place. Sunday school at 8½ o'clock, A. M., in the lecture room of the German Reformed church, Chestnut street.

In the summer of 1858, the congregation purchased a lot one hundred and five by eighty-two, at the corner of Pine and Third streets, upon which in the year 1859, will be constructed a handsome church edifice of limestone, in the style of Gothic which prevailed in the beginning of the fourteenth century. The extreme length of the building is one hundred and five feet, and its width in the rear sixty-seven feet. That part devoted to the lecture and Sabbath school rooms is in the rear, and projects beyond the side of the main building. The tower of the main building, projecting from its Third street side, imparts to the whole pile, breadth and peculiarity, and is admired for its grace and massiveness. It is surmounted with a spire, and the combined height of the two is one hundred and sixty feet.

The front of the building on Pine street is of great symmetry and variety; and while it has the desirable look of solidity, it is made pleasing and lively by a sufficiency without redundancy of ornament.

The main audience room, and the lower floor of the lecture room, are about two feet above the level of the pavement.

The principal entrances to the audience room are through two large door-ways in the lower section of the main tower on Third street, and a door-way opposite, entered from Pine street. There are also two other entrances, one through the small tower of the lecture room, and another through the session room.

The lecture and school room are entered through a large and commodious door on Third street. The construction of that part of the building containing these, was commenced in the fall of 1858, and completed in the early part of 1859.

The windows are of light stained glass, which gives a very pleasant and cheerful effect. The roof is constructed of open

timber, collar braced, and has a span of fifty-three feet. The principal timbers are moulded, and painted in colors harmonizing with the rich stained glass of the windows. An opening immediately beneath the roof along the entire length of the audience room furnishes proper ventilation.

The pews in the audience room are divided by four aisles running parallel with Third street, and two running parallel with Pine street, and will seat comfortably six hundred persons.

The choir gallery projects beyond the side of the main building, to the right of the pulpit. Under this gallery are the session room and pastor's study.

All the wood work of the interior, excepting the roof, is grained in imitation of oak, which adds much to the general effect, and supports the air of solidity and durability which characterizes the whole structure. The architect of the building was Luther M. Simon, of Harrisburg.

---

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.**—The records of this church show that as early as 1802, Harrisburg was visited in circuit, statedly, by Rev. Jacob Gruber. The first society was formed in 1810. In October, 1818, the following persons constituted the church, viz: John Funk, William Mitchell, Jane Mitchell, John Bond, Rebecca Bond, Harriet Henry, Amelia Henry, William Musgrave, B. Barret, John Hosler, Alex. Buffington, John Rigg, Jane Wood, E. Wood, Louisa Power, Jacob M. Awl, Aurora Callender, Mary M'Michael, George Linketter, John Burkett.

At this period, Rev. Mr. M'Allister, on behalf of the congregation, purchased the small two story brick dwelling house which stood until the fall of 1858 on the north-west side of Pine street, a few doors from Third street, which, after being altered for the purpose was used by the congregation, until it was sold

by the Sheriff to satisfy a mortgage which existed on it previous to its purchase by that body.

After vacating this building, the congregation worshipped in the small one story log house, still standing on the south-east side of Locust street, between Second street and River alley, and subsequently in the school house of Mr. M'Ginnis, a one story frame building, which formerly stood in Raspberry alley, east of Chesnut street, on the lot now owned by Mr. Jacob Miley.

In 1820 the congregation erected the brick building at the eastern corner of South and Second streets, at an expense of \$1,500. Trustees at that time, John Bond, James Gallagher and John Funk. This church was dedicated in December, 1820. Preachers then on this circuit, Rev. J. Gruber and H. G. King. It continued to be a circuit church until 1834, when Rev. Francis Hodgson became the first stationed pastor. The society then consisted of one hundred and seventy-five members.

A few years after the erection of the church building, some evil disposed persons entered it at night, and, with an augur, bored holes in the sills of the pulpit, which they filled with powder and ignited by slow matches, the explosion of which shattered that structure into fragments. Although a reward of \$100 was offered by the Governor, and one of similar amount by the Town Council, the perpetrators of the deed were never discovered. Universal sympathy was extended to the congregation by the citizens of the borough, and liberal donations of money made, which not only enabled the congregation to construct a new pulpit, but to pay an onerous debt on the church building itself, for which the trustees were bondsmen.

The old church being inconveniently small, the society, in 1837, commenced the erection of its present large and commodious building, in Locust street. Its size is sixty feet six inches front by seventy-three feet deep, and cost \$9,459 24. It was dedicated in August, 1838, and remodeled in 1852. Pastor, Rev.



D. W. Bartine. Residence in Walnut street near Second.—Preaching every Sabbath at 10 in the morning and 7½ in the evening. Lecture every Thursday evening. Communion first Sabbath of every month, immediately after morning service.—Baptism, last Sabbath of every month, immediately before preaching. Class-meetings in the basement of the church on Sabbath afternoon at 3 o'clock, and on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings. Sabbath school at 1½ o'clock in the afternoon, in the basement. Infant school and Bible Class at the same hour.

---

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL (ST. STEPHEN'S) CHURCH.—This congregation was established May 16, 1826, by the following persons, who then constituted its members:

George B. Fisher, John B. Cox, William Mileham, William Putnam, James Woodman, James S. Buchanan, James Peacock, Samuel Bryan, Alexander C. Wilson, John E. Forster and John De Pui.

In 1827 the congregation erected a neat and substantial brick building, of the Gothic order, on Front street, a short distance below Pine, in size forty feet front by sixty feet deep, at a cost of \$5,000. A lofty square brick tower surmounts the front of the edifice, in which is one of the finest bells in the borough. A superior toned organ is also attached to the church, whose melodious strains give good effect to the beautiful services of the congregation. The Rectory of the church is on Front street, above Pine—Rev. Robert A. Castleman, Rector. Regular Sabbath service, morning and evening. On first Sunday of each month, communion in morning, children catechised in the afternoon, and service at evening. Lecture on Wednesday evening; Bible Class on Monday evening; Sabbath school, morning and afternoon. All pews free for strangers.

•

**ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—This edifice was erected in the year 1826, by Rev. Michael Curren. It is a very neat building, with a tower and large bell, situated on State street, between Second and Third streets. It was consecrated October 2, 1827, by Right Rev. Henry Conwell, then Bishop of the diocese of Philadelphia. Its original size was about fifty by seventy-five feet, and cost from \$6,000 to \$7,000. It has since been enlarged and otherwise improved. Rev. Michael Curren was its first pastor, who was succeeded by Rev. John Foley, who held charge of it only a few months. The latter was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. Pierce Maher. Preaching every Sabbath at 10½ o'clock, A. M., and 3 P. M. Sabbath school at 9 A. M. Mass on Sunday at 8½, A. M., and during the week at 6½, A. M.

---

**CHURCH OF GOD.**—A congregation, with the above title, under the pastoral care of Rev. John Winebrenner, in the year 1827, erected the brick edifice, which stood until the summer of 1858, in Mulberry street, between Front street and River alley, on the lot now occupied by the South Ward public school building, and worshipped therein until a few years ago, when it built and removed to the new brick structure at the corner of Fourth street and Strawberry alley, which it at present occupies. The compiler has been unable to procure any further particulars. Pastor, Rev. James Colder. Preaching every Sabbath at 10 A. M., and 7½ P. M. Lecture every Thursday evening. Ordinances administered on the first Sabbath of January, April, July and October. Class-meetings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and Sabbath afternoon. Sabbath school at 1½ P. M.

---

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.**—Rev. Dyer A. Nichols, under the direction of the Pennsylvania Baptist Board of Missions, arrived in Harrisburg on the 19th of February, 1830. He sought out a few of the same faith. After sundry meetings in private houses, they agreed in council, on the 22nd of March, 1830, to hold a meeting in the Unitarian church, which then stood where the Methodist church now stands, in Locust street, near Third, for the purpose of constituting themselves into a church. That meeting was held on the 2nd of April, 1830. Nine persons attended, viz: Rev. Dyer A. Nichols, Griffith E. Roberts, Mary Berry, Abigail Rittenhouse, Ann Wilkinson, Thos. Corbitt, Julia Thompson, and Fanny Phillips. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. D. A. Nichols, and these individuals constituted themselves the "First Baptist Mission Church, of Harrisburg." The first baptism took place on the 4th of July, 1830; persons baptised—Levi L. Tate and Linn Banks. On the 9th of September following, the congregation had increased to twenty-one. Rev. Dyer A. Nichols continued in pastoral charge until September 30, 1830.

In the fall of 1830 the congregation commenced the erection of a church on Front street, between Walnut and Locust streets, which was completed in August, 1831. It is a neat edifice of brick, forty by fifty feet, with a fine school room in the basement. The original founders were William Griffith, Rev. D. A. Nichols, Griffith E. Roberts, and Jeremiah Reese; cost of lot and erection of buildings, \$6,700; a large portion of which was contributed by a worthy member of the church. The building was dedicated to worship August 18, 1831, and on the 30th of September, of the same year, Rev. George J. Miles, of Centre county, Pa., took pastoral charge of the church, which he retained until February 24, 1835.

The congregation, several years ago, vacated the church building on Front street, and commenced the erection of a large

and commodious brick edifice at the east corner of Second and Pine streets. The building is now (1858) under roof, but in other respects remains incomplete, owing to pecuniary considerations. The lecture room in the basement, however, has been fitted up for the accommodation of the congregation, and divine services are held therein regularly every Sabbath, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Green Miles.

---

**THE GERMAN LUTHERAN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.**—The difficulties in relation to divine service, in the English and German languages, existing in the Evangelical Lutheran Zion's church led, (as has been previously stated,) to an amicable separation between the English and German members in the fall of 1842. After a number of preliminary meetings, the German portion who seceded from the church, formally organized, and on the 8th of January, 1843, founded the present German Lutheran St. Michael's church. At this meeting Rev. G. Mertz, was chosen pastor of the congregation; on the 22nd February following, a committee was appointed to draft rules for their government, which were adopted on the 6th of July, 1843.

As the congregation had no church building of their own, they worshipped at times in the Court House, old Methodist church, and in the German Reformed church and lecture room.

The congregation soon took measures to secure a building, and having purchased of the late Thomas Elder, Esq., a lot in Second street, below Meadow lane, a building committee, consisting of John G. Jauss, Christian Maeyer, Jacob Boger, Jacob Reeve and John Gastrock, was appointed, with authority also to collect funds. With their accustomed liberality towards all good objects, the citizens of Harrisburg assisted their German brethren, and several mechanics generously contributed in work and materials. Rev. G. Mertz's term having expired, the con-

gregation called Rev. J. Vogelbach, then residing in Philadelphia, who was installed on the 21st of July, 1844. Soon after this, the building committee contracted with Messrs. Jones and Zimmerman for the erection of the church. The corner-stone was laid on the 4th of May, 1844, and on the 15th of September following the house was dedicated to the worship of God. During the building of the church, extreme difficulties were experienced, and often it was supposed that the enterprise would have to be abandoned. At this juncture, with a praiseworthy self-denial, four of the members, viz: Messrs. John G. Jauss, Christian Maeyer, Jacob Boger and Frederick Gauch, advanced each one hundred and fifty dollars, making six hundred dollars in all, to enable the church to succeed.

The church is a handsome brick building thirty-eight by sixty feet, with basement story; has a front gallery, organ and Gothic windows—cost with the lot, about \$4,000.

In 1844 the congregation was incorporated, and by the articles of incorporation, it is ordained that Divine service shall be performed in the German language only.

Pastor in 1858, Rev. W. S. Porr. Preaching every Sabbath at 10 o'clock, A. M., and 7 o'clock, P. M.

---

**UNITED BRETHREN.**—This society was established about ten years ago; but we had no means of obtaining particulars of its early history. It owns, and worships in the old Baptist church building, on Front street, near Locust, and is at present in a very flourishing condition.

The pastor of the congregation is Rev. I. Carpenter. Residence in North street, near Third. Preaching every Sabbath at 10 o'clock in the morning and 7 in the evening. Lecture every Thursday evening. Sabbath school at 1½ in the afternoon.

**EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION.**—A society with this title, was established a few years ago, and at present its members are pretty numerous. The congregation worship in the lower story of the Sons of Temperance Hall, corner of Second and South streets, under the pastoral care of Rev. G. Marquet. Preach every Sabbath at 10 A. M., and 7 P. M. Sabbath school, English and German, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

---

**OHAF SHOLEM CONGREGATION OF JEWS**, worship every Saturday at the synagogue in the second story of Duncan's building, Third street. The congregation is large and respectable. L. Bernhard is Rabbi; A. Rapp, President, and Joseph Newman, Treasurer of the congregation. We could obtain no further particulars.

---

**WESLEYAN UNION (COLORED) CHURCH.**—This congregation was organized under the pastoral care of Rev. Jacob D. Richardson, on the 20th of August, 1829. The organization took place in a log building, which was standing until a few years ago, at the corner of Third and Mulberry streets.

The congregation, at present, worship in a plain, but neat church, at the corner of Tanner's alley and South street, to which they removed November 24, 1839. Present pastor, Rev. James A. Jones; residence, Tanner's alley. Preaching every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock, 2½ P. M., and in the evening at 7½ o'clock. Class-meetings on Monday and Friday evenings, and on Sunday at noon. Lecture or discussion on Wednesday evening of each week.

---

**BETHEL.**—A congregation of colored people, with this title, worship in a small building near Short street, above Walnut. Preaching at 10 o'clock in the morning, and at 2½ in the afternoon, and 7 in the evening.

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, (COLORED).**—About the 10th of September, 1857, Mr. Joseph C. Bristill, at the instance of M. M'Kinney, Esq., of Harrisburg, called the attention of Rev. C. W. Gardner, of Philadelphia, to the necessity of forming an additional Presbyterian church in Harrisburg. Induced by this representation, Rev. Mr. Gardner, visited Harrisburg on the 20th of September and conferred with Rev'ds Dr. DeWitt and Robinson, and other prominent Presbyterians of the First church upon the subject, who experienced a lively interest in the matter, and promised to extend liberal aid to the enterprise, provided a suitable place for worship could be procured. The great financial troubles which, at this period, prevailed throughout the country, however, caused a suspension of the project until the spring of 1858, at which time several members of the proposed congregation rented the large and commodious room on the second story of the brick building at the south-west corner of Walnut street and River alley, which was fitted up as a place of worship for the congregation, who convened to hold Divine services therein, regularly, every Sabbath, under the direction of Rev'ds DeWitt and Robinson. A Sunday school was also organized and placed under the superintendence of Mordecai M'Kinney, Esq.

The congregation, thus formed, invited Rev. C. W. Gardner, who had returned to Philadelphia, to undertake its pastoral charge. This gentleman accepted the invitation, and arrived in Harrisburg on the 9th of April, 1858. On Sunday, the 11th of April, he preached his first sermon.

On the 14th of October, 1858, the congregation sent a petition to the Harrisburg Presbytery asking to be regularly organized, which was granted; and on the 27th of the same month a committee of the Presbytery met at the church, in Walnut street, to perform that duty.

Rev. William R. DeWitt presided. An appropriate sermon

was delivered by Rev. Dr. Wing, of Carlisle, and an impressive prayer offered to the Throne of Grace by Rev. James Colder, of Harrisburg.

At 7 o'clock P. M., the following named persons were duly organized a church, viz: Jeremiah Kelley, Hannah Kelley, Hiram Baker, Nancy Christy, Matilda Greenly, Zillah Galloway, Sarah Hawkins, Curry Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor, Wm. White, Sarah Kelley, and Hannah Humphreys, all of whom were received on profession, except Nancy Christy, who presented a certificate from the Presbyterian church of Mercersburg, Pa.

Jeremiah Kelley and Hiram Baker, were respectively ordained as ruling elders.

After the ceremonies, addresses were delivered by Rev'ds DeWitt, Wing and Davis.

The church made immediate application to the Presbytery to be supplied with ministerial services for the ensuing six months; whereupon Rev. C. W. Gardner was unanimously chosen as pastor.

The congregation worship every Sabbath at 10½ A. M., and 7 P. M. Sabbath school at 2½ P. M.

#### EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

General intelligence is a prominent characteristic of the citizens of the borough, and the consequence is that their educational institutions are all in a flourishing condition, and numerous.

**THE COMMON SCHOOLS.**—The following tabular statement of the common schools in Harrisburg, is derived from the annual report of S. D. Ingram, Esq., the County Superintendent for 1858:

	N. Ward.	S. Ward.
Whole number of schools, . . . .	14	10
Average number of months taught, . . .	10	10
Number of male teachers, . . . .	7	8



	N. Ward.	S. Ward.
Number of female teachers, . . . .	7	7
Average salaries of males per month, . .	\$40 00	\$38 88
Average salaries of females per month . .	27 33	28 93
Number of male scholars, . . . .	576	400
Number of female scholars, . . . .	407	505
Average number of scholars attending school,	771	610
Cost of teaching each scholar per month, .		49 cts.
Mills on the dollar levied for school purposes, 6½ mills.		5 mills.
“ “ building “ . .		5
Amount of tax for school purposes, . .	\$10,376 09	
“ “ building “ . .		\$5,539 02
Total amount levied, . . . .	10,376 09	5,539 02
Received from State appropriation. . . .	532 00	350 74
Received from collector of taxes, . . . .	9,198 06	5,279 46
Cost of instruction, i. e. teachers wages, .	5,656 00	3,002 20
Fuel and contingencies . . . .	679 04	1,842 20
Cost of school houses, purchasing, building,		
renting, &c., . . . .	2,951 52	9,700 00

From the report of the same officer made in 1857, we derive the following statement of the school houses in the borough :

**NORTH WARD.**—In State street, one brick school house, two stories, two rooms, with high ceilings, can seat sixty pupils in each, means of ventilation good, heated by furnace, hydrants in rooms, best style of furniture, a large portion of the walls painted black, beside a large black-board in each. Two large brick buildings in Walnut street, two stories high, four rooms in each, plenty of black surface in each room; out-line and other maps, globes and philosophical apparatus belong to the schools; schools well graded; primary schools crowded. A good one story brick building for colored school.

**SOUTH WARD.**—Three brick buildings, each two stories high, and two schools in each; schools graded, and primary schools crowded; maps and other apparatus belong to the schools; have introduced Murrey's and Stoeck's school register into each school of the ward.

Since the above was written, the new school house in Mul-

berry street, previously noticed, has been completed, and an addition built to the brick school house in State street, giving it nearly twice its former capacity.

---

**HARRISBURG FEMALE SEMINARY.**—This flourishing institution had its origin in 1849, in a select class of young ladies, under the instruction of Mrs. Anna Le Conte, who continued its principal until July 1853. The advantages of her instruction soon led to an increase of pupils, requiring assistant teachers, and to an act of incorporation, by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, in 1853, under a board of trustees, consisting of the following persons, viz:

James W. Weir, President; John C. Kunkel, Secretary; J. Adams Fisher, Daniel D. Boas, James R. Jones, William M. Kerr, and George H. Small. Since that time it has been enlarging in numbers and usefulness until it now ranks among the best institutions of the kind in our State; one which not only our own citizens appreciate and patronize, but which enjoys the confidence and patronage of many through the Commonwealth and of other States.

There have been connected with the institution, during the winter term of 1858, about one hundred boarding and day scholars.

The following named persons constituted its corps of instructors in 1858:

Mrs. Sarah E. Dixon, principal; Miss Marion A. Slocum, teacher of Latin, Mathematics and the higher English branches; Miss Delia A. Slocum, teacher of English branches and Drawing; Miss Charlotte L. Metcalf, teacher of Music; Miss Louisa Whipple, teacher of Music; Mad'selle Benner, teacher of the French language; M. Adolpho Tuipser, teacher of the German language.

The Seminary is on Locust street, near the Capitol grounds,

which is the most quiet and retired portion of the town. Its dry and elevated situation has rendered it remarkably healthy. No serious illness has ever occurred in the family.

The building is admirably calculated for a boarding school, being very large, lighted with gas, well warmed, with conveniences for bathing, &c., while the school room is of ample capacity to seat over two hundred pupils, well ventilated and supplied with Boston desks and all necessary apparatus.

The religious, moral and intellectual influence of the Seminary has been very marked. The schedule of studies is ample; meeting the demands of the age for enlarged female education.

The catalogues of the institution contain strong testimonials from gentlemen of the highest character for intelligence and worth, who have been patrons of the Seminary, or who have been on committees of examination.

The success of this institution is a matter of congratulation to our citizens, and is eminently creditable to its accomplished founder, Mrs. Le Conte.

---

PENNSYLVANIA FEMALE COLLEGE.—This institution of learning was incorporated by the Legislature of the Commonwealth at its session of 1853, and is endowed with the privileges and immunities of institutions of like character throughout the United States.

It is governed by a board of twenty-four trustees, of which the Governor of the Commonwealth is (*ex-officio*) President.

The course of instruction is intended to develop the intellectual, social and moral faculties; and by imparting a thorough, practical, accomplished and Christian education, fit the pupil for the faithful discharge of the responsible duties that await her in life.

Great pains are taken to promote intellectual advancement, by rendering the acquisition of knowledge pleasant, and by training the pupil for correct habits of thought and reflection.

The proper exercises of the social feelings are encouraged by inculcating whatever belongs to refined manners, and dignified courtesy in our intercourse with others; while reading and recitations from the Bible, familiarize the mind with the truth of our holy religion, and imbue the heart with the right principles of action and rules for the government of life.

The collegiate department embraces a course of study extending through a period of three years—styled the Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes.

In accordance with the plan recommended and adopted by a Convention of the Presidents of Female Colleges, recently held in Cincinnati, Ohio, those young ladies pursuing a full collegiate course, receive a diploma and degree, in correspondence with the nature of their studies.

A general examination of the classes is held at the close of the summer term; and, at the commencement held at that time, such young ladies as have, by their previous diligence and application, merited the honor, is admitted to the degree authorized by the board of trustees. Beautiful silver medals are awarded, as special honors, to those members of the graduating class who have exhibited great proficiency and application in their studies.

The College building is that known as the "Harris Mansion," on the corner of Front street and Washington avenue. These premises have been thoroughly refitted, the rooms have been altered so as to afford great convenience, and by the introduction of gas, water, and hot air from furnaces, are rendered very comfortable.

The College and grounds occupy an entire square on the banks of the beautiful Susquehanna, and are entirely disconnected with adjoining property. The whole is enclosed with substantial fence and railing, and the garden and walks are beautifully and tastefully arranged.

The graduates of the College for the scholastic year 1857-8,

numbered thirty, and the students fifty-four—giving a total of eighty-four.

The Principal of the Faculty is Rev. Beverly R. Waugh, A. M.

---

**THE HARRISBURG ACADEMY.**—An educational establishment with this title existed in the borough previous to the year 1813.

In the "Pennsylvania Republican" of October 10, of that year, we find the following notice of the Academy :

*Harrisburg Academy.*—Rev. Mr. Buchanan, Rev. Mr. Gloninger, Rev. Mr. Schaeffer, A. Porter, Esq., W. Graydon, Esq., G. Fisher, Esq., R. Harris, Esq., G. Bryan, Esq., Samuel Agnew, Trustees. Sylvanus Guernsey, Principal.

A quarterly examination of the students of this institution was held at the Court House, on Friday the 1st inst., before the trustees and some of the parents of the scholars, with other citizens of the town ; and on the following evening, before a numerous and respectable assemblage of citizens, the pupils exhibited specimens of their improvement in oratory.

*Harrisburg, October 4, 1813.*

*At a meeting of the Trustees of the Academy :*

The board having witnessed with much satisfaction, on the day of examination, the facility and general correctness of the scholars in answering the various questions on the improvement made in their respective studies, and on the evening of the following day, their specimens of oratory, deem it a duty to express their approbation of the system and conduct of Mr. Guernsey ; therefore,

*Resolved,* That the secretary cause the foregoing to be published in the newspapers of the borough.

By order and on behalf of the board of trustees.

ANDW. PORTER, *Pres't.*

*Samuel Agnew, Sec'y.*

In 1814, as we have shown on page 149, the trustees of the Academy received from the State a grant of a part of the public grounds, for the purpose of erecting thereon a suitable school building. At this period it appears to have been a joint stock concern, but we do not know how long it retained this character.

The present Academy is under the control of Mr. A. A. Kemble, and a board of trustees, and enjoys a good reputation for the thorough and systematic course of instructions the pupils receive therein.

The Academy building is a plain rough-cast edifice, two stories high, beautifully situated on Front street, a short distance above South, adjacent to the residence of the principal.

---

**SELECT SCHOOLS.**—A select school for young men was established a few years ago by Mr. Jacob S. Seiler, at his residence, corner of Chesnut street and Raspberry alley. It is well attended apparently with successful results.

R. M'Elwee, and sisters, Mrs. Pool, Miss Kelker, and Miss Valentine, also, are in charge of select schools for infants of both sexes, in which the elementary branches of study are pursued, with such modification of discipline suited to the tender age of the scholars as secures a good foundation for further intellectual pursuits.

#### RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

**HARRISBURG BIBLE SOCIETY.**—The Harrisburg Bible Society is now in the forty-fourth year of its existence; having been founded on the 3d of February, 1814. The original members of the society were as follows: William Graydon, President; Rev. F. C. Schaeffer, Secretary; William Findlay, Simon Snyder, Richard G. Leech and Joseph M'Gimsey, Treasurers. Soon after its formation the following named gentlemen engaged in the good cause: Dr. Roberts, Dr. Agnew, N.

B. Boileau, Rev. George Lochman, Robert Sloan, John Wyeth, John Mytinger, Peter Keller, James Trimble, Henry Antes, George Bryan, James Peacock, Rev. W. R. DeWitt, George Whitehill, John Whitehill, William Allison, James Wright, Andrew Graydon, William Murray, Perry C. Nabb, John C. Capp, M. Ranhausen, F. Heisley, James Wright, George K. Nutz, John Stoner, Dr. Martin Luther and Mrs. Hanna.

From this list of names it will be perceived how cordially the prominent citizens of the place entered into this movement, and the records of the society prove that, for more than forty years, this truly humane and benevolent cause has never lost its hold upon the sympathies of our population. This association was for many years the only one existing in Dauphin county, but it repeatedly undertook and accomplished the exploration of the whole of our territory, and the supplying of all the destitute with copies of the Holy Scriptures, at the same time sending liberal donations annually to the parent society. In the year 1851 it sent out into the various towns and villages of the county, committees of its board of managers to organize similar associations wherever it was practicable. Twelve such were established, and these were subsequently combined, along with the original Harrisburg Bible society, into the existing Dauphin County Bible society, of which the officers in 1858 were Hon. A. O. Hiester, President; Rev. C. A. Hay, Secretary; A. K. Fahnestock, Treasurer. The present number of members is one hundred and fifty.

The above particulars were kindly furnished at the compiler's request, by A. K. Fahnestock, and were published in the Daily Patriot and Union, from which they are copied.

---

HARRISBURG SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' UNION.—This organization had its origin in the expostulating wish of a warm-hearted Sunday School teacher, at the close of a monthly

concert of prayer for Sunday schools, in the year 1839—"Why cannot we have an association of Sunday School teachers?"—The expression had a strong effect on the mind of the person to whom it was addressed, and immediately led to a consultation among the superintendents of the several schools of the borough, who agreed to call a general meeting of teachers and recommend the organization of such an institution. This meeting was held in the county court house\* in the month of June, 1839, and was attended by about one hundred teachers and others interested in religious instruction. The teachers of all the Sabbath schools in the borough were present, and five out of six of the schools agreed to make the experiment—the teachers of the sixth school declined participating in the movement on the ground that the hour selected for attendance would interfere with their church services.

The association was organized by electing Charles V. Kelley, President, and Rudolph F. Kelker, Secretary.

The objects specially arrived at in forming the association were—prayer, discipline, exhortation, local intelligence, the inculcation of fraternal feeling and Sunday School fellowship, the establishment and support of Sunday schools in destitute localities, and a depository of religious books, &c.

Said the annual report of the association, in 1841, "no better evidence of our fraternal feeling can be referred to than the full attendance of our meetings, which have averaged twice or thrice as many as that of the monthly concert in Philadelphia—the great Sunday School metropolitan, with her train bands of fifteen hundred or two thousand teachers."

The association continued in a prosperous condition until about the year 1844, when an enthusiastic religious revival prevailed in all the churches, which absorbed the interest of the

\*The first Sunday school ever organized in the borough was held in this building—hence it has been very appropriately called the "Cradle of Harrisburg Sunday schools."



teachers, and caused a suspension of its meetings until June, 1854, when it was again revived by the election of Rudolph F. Kelker, President, and Augustus Burnett, Secretary.

The organization, at present, is in a flourishing condition, and meets monthly in the several churches of the borough, alternately. The depository is in Chestnut street, west of Second street, and is under the superintendence of E. S. German.—The officers of the Society in 1858 were James M'Cormick, Jr., President; Emanuel S. German, Secretary.

---

*The Union Communion.*—The Christian feeling and brotherly kindness that uniformly prevailed in the meetings of the "Sunday School Teachers' Union," suggested the propriety of a joint public celebration of the Lord's Supper, by the superintendents and teachers of the schools represented in the "Union," together with such of the pupils of their schools as were members of the church.

To avoid interfering with the communion seasons of any of the churches, the last Sabbath in April was designated for the purpose. The matter was mentioned first to the superintendents and pastors. It met with a general approval, and that none might partake but church members in good standing, each superintendent was to be furnished with his quota of printed programmes, containing the order of exercises, hymns to be sung, &c.

Accordingly, at the close of the several schools on the last Sabbath of April, 1855, those teachers and older scholars who were church members in good standing, were invited to remain; and to each was given a programme, which served as a token of his or her right to commune. The superintendents and teachers, with the scholars who were church members, went in procession to the Presbyterian church, where seats were reserved for the respective schools. The superintendents and teachers, with scholars of seven different schools, or denominations, par-

ticipated, viz: the Methodist, Lutheran, (English and German,) Presbyterian, German Reformed, Bethel, and United Brethren. Ten clergymen officiated on the occasion. As near as could be ascertained, three hundred joined in communion. The side pews and galleries were crowded with spectators.

A correspondent of the "Philadelphia Sunday School Journal," of November, 1855, who participated in this communion, wrote as follows:

"Our meeting was one of deep and solemn interest. Our pastors themselves were deeply moved. No one present will ever forget the occasion. When the last hymn was sung, the pastors and communicants rose. It was a sublime spectacle to witness ten ministers standing in front and three hundred laborers in the Sabbath schools, each with their token in their hands, and to all human appearance, singing from their inmost soul the appropriate words of the hymn, commencing:

'Witness ye men and angels now,  
Before the Lord we speak;  
To Him we make our solemn vow,  
A vow we dare not break:  
That long as life itself shall last,  
Ourselves to Christ we yield;  
Nor from his cause will we depart,  
Or ever quit the field.'

Many were moved to tears, and every heart seemed to heave with deep emotion."

The communion continues to be held regularly on the last Sabbath of April, in every year, in the churches of the borough, alternately.

---

THE "YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION" was instituted December 12, 1854. Its objects are, according to article fifth of its constitution, to seek out young men taking up their residence in Harrisburg, and the vicinity, and endeavor to bring them under moral and religious influence, by aiding them in the

selection of suitable boarding houses and employment; by introducing them to the members and privileges of this association; by securing their attendance at some place of worship on the Sabbath; and, by every means in their power, to surround them with christian influences.

The rooms of the association are on the second story of Kelker's building, corner of Market street and River alley. They are handsomely fitted up, and contain two book cases with several hundred volumes of a religious and miscellaneous character. Members can have access to them day and night.

The regular meetings of the association are held on the second Tuesday evening of each month, for the proposal and election of new members; for the promotion of social and religious intercourse; and for the reception and consideration of such information as may advance the welfare of the association.

Officers in 1858:

H. Murray Graydon, President; Rev. Charles A. Hay, (Lutheran,) J. F. Seiler, (Presbyterian,) Rev. R. A. Castleman, (Episcopalian,) J. Wesley Aul, (Methodist,) Rev. William Mooney, (Church of God,) R. F. Kelker, (German Reformed,) Vice Presidents; Chas. Conner, Recording Secretary; J. W. Simonton, Corresponding Secretary; Jeremiah Uhler, Treasurer; Robert M'Elwee, Librarian; A. W. Young, (Methodist,) H. C. Fahnestock, (Presbyterian,) E. S. German, (Lutheran,) Charles Connor, (Episcopalian,) H. A. Kelker, (German Reformed,) George Cunkle, (Baptist,) Managers.

---

**YOUNG MEN'S HOME MISSION.**—At a prayer meeting held by the young men attached to the Methodist Episcopal church in 1857, Mr. B. J. Harris proposed and advocated the organization of a Home Missionary society. The proposition receiving the favorable support of those present, a committee, consisting of Messrs. B. J. Harris, Reid, Nichols and Carman, was ap-

pointed to wait upon the members of the church, and others, to procure subscriptions for the support of the enterprise. The terms of membership were one dollar. The committee in a short time procured nearly one hundred dollars in subscriptions.

On the evening of Wednesday, September 16, 1857, a public meeting of those favorable to the project was held in the lecture room of the Methodist church, when the society was organized under the title of the "Young Men's Home Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for the borough and suburbs of Harrisburg," and the following officers elected :

Rev. D. W. Bartine, President ; James Porter, Vice President ; John W. Reid, Corresponding Secretary ; S. H. Ettla, Recording Secretary ; Augustus Sayford, Treasurer.

At a subsequent meeting a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and a committee appointed to select a suitable place for commencing the operations of the society. This committee suggested the lower end of the borough. Accordingly a room was procured in that section, and on Sunday morning the 4th of October, 1857, a Sabbath school was opened with the attendance of two male and two female scholars, under the direction of Mr. B. J. Harris. The school increased rapidly, and a more commodious room was procured in Second street, between Washington avenue and Vine street, which it now occupies.

The regular services held in the mission room are, preaching every Sabbath evening ; Sabbath school morning and afternoon ; prayer meetings on Tuesday evenings ; and class meetings on Friday evenings. Rev. J. C. Young officiates as pastor to those who worship here.

A sewing society has been formed by the female members of the mission, by which means the poor and needy are clothed and properly cared for.

The mission has distributed about six hundred pages of tracts. The average number of scholars attending the school is about one hundred, who are supplied with twenty-three teachers.

The success which attended the opening of this school induced the mission, in the summer of 1858, to open another school in the northern part of the borough, under the superintendence of Mr. Elijah Wise. This school per last report numbers sixty scholars and fifteen teachers. Prayer meetings are held in the school room every Saturday evening.

The limited accommodations afforded by leasing rooms in private residences, induced the mission last summer to commence the construction of two capacious frame buildings, to be specially devoted to the purposes of the mission. One of these buildings is erected on a lot at the corner of Vine street and River alley, purchased by the church for \$1,200, and the other on a lot in West Harrisburg, fronting the river, donated by Mr. William K. Verbeke. The estimated cost of the two buildings is \$1,800. They will be occupied in January, 1859.

---

THE EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION was organized in November, 1857. In the summer of 1858 the mission constructed a beautiful frame building on a lot at the north side of the reservoir, which, together, cost about \$1,000. The school is well attended. In October, 1858, the school was under the superintendency of R. A. Lamberton, Esq.

---

LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION.—An organization with the above title, whose objects are similar to the former mission, erected a beautiful frame building at the corner of State and High streets, at a cost of about six hundred dollars, which was duly dedicated to Divine worship and Sabbath school purposes in the spring of 1858. The average number of scholars who attend the school is about one hundred. The following were the officers of the mission in October, 1858: Superintendent, Mr. Eby Byers; Assistant Superintendent, Samuel Holman,

Jr.; Treasurer, Wm. Duncan; Librarian, Wm. A. Parkhill; Assistant Librarian, D. L. Duncan.

#### CLUBS AND LIBRARIES.

**AERIAL CLUB**—Instituted in July, 1856. Occupy a room in Odd Fellows' Hall, Second street, above Pine street. Owns a library of about three hundred volumes. Officers in 1858—President, William Seiler; Secretary and Treasurer—John G. Wiestling.

---

**FLASH BOAT CLUB**—Instituted in August, 1856. Owns a swift and handsome row-boat for eight oars, purchased in Philadelphia. The boat-house of the club is situated on the river shore at the south end of the abutment of the Harrisburg bridge. Officers in 1858—President and Coxswain, William Seiler; Secretary and Treasurer, T. Rockhill Smith.

---

**WASHINGTON LIBRARY.**—This association was organized on the twenty-second of February, 1857, and occupy a large and handsomely furnished room in the third story of Stehley's building, in North Third street. Being young men of ability and enterprise they have already, by their own exertions, secured a fine library of over five hundred volumes, which is rapidly increasing. The association is in a very flourishing condition.—Officers in 1858—S. H. Colestock, President; J. S. Boyer, Secretary; Wm. S. Buch, Treasurer.

---

**GERMAN LITERARY SOCIETY**—Instituted July 12, 1858.—Occupy a room at the residence of Mr. Opperman, in Paxton street. Regular meetings of the Society are held once every month. Works of the best authors are placed in the library

formed for the use of the members. Officers in October, 1858—President, Charles Meyer; Secretary, Charles Rosanowski; Treasurer, Adam Erb; Librarians, Messrs. J. Kehr and J. Reichert.

#### MUSICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

THE "EINTRACHT."—Instituted July 4, 1854. Has upwards of forty-five members. Object, to promote the culture of music. Meets on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, in the second story of Koenig's new building in Chesnut street, between Second and Third streets. Officers in October, 1858:—H. Meyer, President; Adam Knebeler, Vice President; F. Gebert, Secretary; B. Fehleisen, Librarian; J. Weiss, Treasurer; F. W. Haas, Leader.

---

THE HARMONIC SOCIETY OF HARRISBURG.—Instituted in 1858. Meets once every week in Haldeman's building, corner of Walnut street and River alley. The society has given several concerts in public, which gave general satisfaction. The Daily Telegraph of October 29, 1858, in alluding to this society says:—"The 'Harmonic' society do not propose to appear in public hereafter. They will, however, offer to subscribing members frequent opportunities of listening to and enjoying the performances of the society—probably opening their room for that purpose at least once in four weeks, or oftener if found desirable or necessary. These meetings, divested of the formality and stiffness usually attending public concerts, will consequently be far more pleasant and enjoyable for all parties—will, in fact, partake of the character of musical soirees. The following extract from the by-laws of the society will suffice to make known the terms of admission to these pleasant musical re-unions, viz: 'Any person may become a subscribing member of this society upon payment of three dollars annually into its treasury.' Opportunity will be afforded the public of becoming

'subscribing members,' on application made to any of the active members. For the information of persons desiring to become active members, we will state that the terms are two dollars per annum for gentlemen. Ladies free."

Officers of the society in October, 1858 :—David Haynes, President; W. A. Tarbutton, Vice President; H. C. Fahnestock, Secretary; D. A. Kepner, Treasurer; S. Ward, Conductor; J. D. Greenawalt, Albert Hummel, F. Asbury Awl, Executive Committee; W. Knoche, Pianist.

---

THE LIEDERKRANTZ.—Instituted June 26, 1858. Has between thirty and forty members. Meets every Monday and Thursday evening in Robeck's building, Third street. Officers in October, 1858 :—Henry Slep, President; J. Miller, Vice President; Charles Neeb, Secretary; J. Dinger, Treasurer; Charles Miller, Librarian; Alfred Teupser, Leader.

---

SAXONIAN BRASS AND STRING BAND.—Meets for exercise three times a week in Brant's Hall. Officers in 1858 :—Chas. F. Volmer, President; William Weber, Leader.

---

STATE CAPITOL BRASS BAND.—Meets for exercise on the fourth story of Cunkle's building, Market street. Samuel Brumbaugh, President and Leader.

---

#### BENEVOLENT AND BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATIONS.

FREE MASONS.—Masonry in Harrisburg occupies the position which some of its adherents claim that it holds in regard to the world—coeval with its first inhabitants, before the organization of its government. Hence all Masonic documents date 4000 years older than the Christian Era. Perseverance



Lodge, No. 21, of free and accepted Masons, ante-dates the organization of our borough and county several years, as appears by the old parchment charter, yet in pretty good preservation, in the lodge; a copy of which is here inserted:

WILLIAM ADCOCK, Grand Master.

**L. S.** JONATHAN BAYARD SMITH, D. G. Master.  
JOSEPH DEAN, S. Grand Warden.  
GEORGE ORD, J. Grand Warden.

*To all whom it may concern :*

The Grand Lodge of the most ancient and honorable fraternity of free and accepted Masons (according to the old constitutions, revised by His Royal Highness Prince Edwin at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the year of the Christian Era 926 and in the year of Masonry 4926) in ample form assembled at Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, SEND GREETING:

WHEREAS, The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of England did, by a Grand Warrant, under the hands of the Right Honorable Thomas Erskine, Earl Kelly, Viscount Fenton, Lord Baron of Pitton Weem, &c., in Great Britain, Grand Master of Masons; the Right Worshipful William Osborne, D. Grand Master; the R. W. M. William Dickey, Senior Grand Warden; the R. W. James Gibson, Esq., Junior Grand Warden, and the seal of the said Grand Lodge, bearing date June 20, 1764—A. M. 5764, nominate, constitute and appoint the Right Worshipful William Ball to be Grand Master; the R. W. Captain Blaithwaite Jones, Deputy Grand Master; the R. W. M. David Hall, S. G. Warden; the R. W. M. Hugh Lenox, J. G. Warden, of a provincial Grand Lodge, to be held at Philadelphia, for the province of Pennsylvania, granting to them and their successors in office duly elected, and lawfully installed, with the consent of the members of the said Grand Lodge, full power and authority to grant warrants and dispensations for holding lodges, to regulate all matters appertaining to Masonry, and to

do and perform all and every other act and thing which could be usually done and performed by other Grand Lodges, as by the said above in part recited Grand Warrant, reference being thereto had, may more fully and at large appear.

*And whereas*, The Right Worshipful William Adcock, Esq., Grand Master; the Right Worshipful Mr. Alexander Rutherford, Deputy G. Master; the Right Worshipful Jonathan Bayard Smith, Esq., Senior Grand Warden; the Right Worshipful Mr. Joseph Dean, Junior Grand Warden, legal successors of the above named Grand Officers, as by the Grand Lodge Books may appear, together with the officers and representatives of a number of regular lodges, under the jurisdiction, duly appointed and specially authorized, as also by and with the advice and consent of several other lodges, by their letters expressed, did, at a Grand Quarterly Communication, held in the grand lodge room, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 25th day of September A. C. 1786, after mature and serious deliberation, unanimously resolve, "That it is improper the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge;" and the said Grand Lodge did thereupon close *sine die*.

*And whereas*, All the grand officers of the said late Provincial Grand Lodge, together with the officers and representatives of a number of lodges of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, did, on the said 25th day of September, 1786, meet in the room of the late Provincial Grand Lodge, and according to the powers and authorities to them entrusted, did form themselves into a grand convention of Masons to deliberate on the proper methods of forming a grand lodge totally independent from all foreign jurisdiction.

*And whereas*, The said grand convention did then and there unanimously resolve, that the lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, aforesaid, lately held as a Provincial Grand Lodge, under the authority of the Grand

Lodge of England, should, and they then did, form themselves into a grand lodge to be called 'The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Masonic Jurisdiction thereto belonging,' to be held in the said city of Philadelphia, as by the records and proceedings of the said convention, remaining among the archives of the grand lodge aforesaid, may more fully appear.

*And whereas,* By a warrant bearing date the 4th day of October, A. D., 1779, and of Masonry, 5779, under the hands of William Ball, Grand Master, John Hood, D. G. Master, William Shute, S. Warden, and John Howard, J. Warden, and the seal of the late Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the following brethren, to wit: The Worshipful Col. Matthew Smith, Master, William Boyd, Senior Warden, William M'Cullough, Junior Warden, with their lawful assistants, were authorized and appointed to hold a lodge of free and accepted Masons at Lower Paxton township, Lancaster county, and State of Pennsylvania, number 21. And the said lodge, when duly congregated, to admit, enter, and make Masons, according to the ancient and honorable custom of the royal craft in all ages and nations throughout the known world. And also with the further right, privilege, and authority, to nominate, choose and instal their successors, and them to invest in the like power, authority and dignity, to nominate, choose and instal their successors forever, as by the said warrant, reference being had, may appear.

*And whereas,* The said warrant hath been surrendered up to US, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, by the present officers and brethren of said Lodge number 21, praying that the same may be renewed under the authority of this Grand Lodge: *Now know ye,* That we, "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging," by virtue of the powers and authorities vested in us, by the said Grand Convention, do hereby renew and confirm to our trusty and well beloved brethren, to wit: the Worshipful William Boyd, Master; James Rutherford,

Senior Warden, and Major John Gilchrist, Junior Warden, and the other regular members of the said Lodge No. 21 of Ancient York Masons, and to their true and lawful successors for ever, all the Masonic rights, privileges, authority, jurisdiction, and pre-eminence, which by their said original warrant hereinbefore mentioned, and in part recited, they are or may be in any manner or way entitled to hold and enjoy. *Provided always*, That the above named brethren and members of the said Lodge, and their successors, continue, at all times, to pay due respect and obedience to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, agreeably to the rules and ordinances, lawfully made, or to be made, for the benefit of Masonry, and the advancement of our royal craft; otherwise this Warrant to be of no force or virtue.

Given in open Grand Lodge, under the hands of our Right Worshipful Grand Officers, and the seal of our Grand Lodge, at Philadelphia, this fifteenth day of March, A. C. 1787, and of Masonry 5787.

ATHERTON HUMPHREYS, *Grand Secretary*.

Under this warrant the Lodge was held in a school house, and afterwards in the dwelling house of one of the officers, some three miles from where Harrisburg now stands; where many of the more intelligent and respectable of the inhabitants of the then sparsely settled country joined, and met as brethren of the mystic tie. There are yet extant among the older masons, and the descendants of those pioneers, many interesting and amusing incidents and reminiscences, connected with their monthly meetings. One of these, regarded by the craft as highly honorable to the noble and hospitable wife of one of the then officers of the lodge, is here narrated as we have heard it.

The lodge convened at the house of the Master—a log building, two stories in height, on the one side of which was a lean-to, or kitchen; a place of all work, &c. While the lodge was sitting in the upper room, next the kitchen, the wife of the Master, as was her usual custom, was engaged in the kitchen

preparing some nice cooking for such of the brethren as tarried latest—the more particular and intimate friends of her husband. Thus engaged, she thought it no harm to remove a little of the mortar between the logs, that she might occasionally look in and listen to what was doing in the lodge. She did so; and became so deeply interested that she remained at her point of observation so long as to be discovered by some person from without, through whom the fact became known as well to the neighborhood as to the brethren; exciting the surprise and curiosity of the one, and the amusement of the other; both, however, anxious to learn from her what she saw and heard. But she was the true wife of a true Mason, and had, in regard to this at least, “the faithful breast and the silent tongue.” No one, not even her husband, could ever obtain from her any information of what she saw or heard. To all others inquiring, she would reply, “If you are a Mason, you don’t want me to tell you; if you are not a Mason, you have no right to know any thing about it; you can’t learn any thing from me. There was nothing bad; for my husband is a Mason, and was there.”

After Harrisburg was laid out as a town, and somewhat built, the place of meeting of the lodge was changed to the town, where its meetings have since been regularly held, except from 1828 to 1841, when its labors were suspended in deference to public opinion, which in this part of the State, was at that time hostile to secret societies. It is said, by the Masons of the present day, that “the opposition of that time but tested the integrity of its members and the real strength and value of the institution; lopped off its barren or rotten branches, and prepared it, like the oak of the forest, after bending beneath the storm, to rise invigorated and strengthened to flourish and spread more widely than ever.”

In July, 1818, a Mark Master’s Lodge was opened here, of which the Hon. Daniel Scott, then President Judge, was the master. In December, 1818, a Royal Arch Chapter was open-

ed, William Greer being the High Priest. By Webb's Masonic Monitor, published in 1816, it appears that in 1797 an Encampment of Knights Templar existed in Harrisburg. The craft here now have no records of it. In 1827 an Encampment of Knights Templar was opened here, under an authority from De Witt Clinton, then Grand Master of Christian Chivalric Knight-hood in the United States. Of this body, Rev. Gregory E. Bodell, Rev. J. B. Clemson, Rev. James De Pui, John Neilson, and John De Pui were officers. All these branches of the Masonic body suspended their work during the period above named.

In 1842 the Lodge and Chapter were both re-constituted and re-opened—Benjamin Parke being elected Master and High Priest. Since then Masonry, in Harrisburg, in all its branches, has been highly prosperous. In the Masonic Register, for 1858, Perseverance Lodge, Harrisburg, ranks as the third of the working lodges in the State, now numbering three hundred and twelve, and Perseverance Chapter as the second of working chapters, now numbering one hundred and eighty-seven. The number of Masons under the jurisdiction of this lodge, is said to be over two hundred; the number in the State some fifteen thousand.

The following are the Masonic bodies now in operation in Harrisburg, their officers in October, 1858, and their times and place of meeting:

Perseverance H. R. A. Chapter, No. 21, meets on the first Monday in each month, at Masonic Hall, (formerly Wyeth's,) corner of Market street and Raspberry alley, next to the Court House. Officers in October, 1858:—H. P., Wm. T. Bishop; K., B. R. Waugh; S., C. F. Muench; Treasurer, William H. Kepner; Sec., A. W. Young.

*Past High Priests:*—Benjamin Parke, R. A. Lamberton.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, meets on the second Monday in each month, at the same place. Officers in October, 1858:—

W. M., Robert L. Muench; S. W., E. A. Hassler; J. W., B. R. Waugh; Treas., C. F. Muench; Sec., Geo. F. Weaver.

*Past Masters* :—Henry Bader, C. F. Muench, Benj. Parke, J. J. Clyde, John H. Berryhill, R. A. Lamberton, John Wal-lower, Jr., W. T. Bishop, T. J. Jordan.

Parke Encampment of Knights Templar, No. 11, meets on the Friday next after the second Monday of each month, at the same place.

Council of Royal and Silent Masters, meets third Monday in each month, at the same place.

Harrisburg Lodge, No. 28, (colored).—J. F. Williams, W. M.; C. H. Vance, S. R., meets in Masonic Hall, Tanner's alley.

Nehemiah Lodge, No. 16, (colored).—Meets at the same place.

Prince Edward Lodge, (colored).—Meets at the same place.

---

I. O. OF O. F.—The first Lodge, in Harrisburg, of this great and useful fraternity, was established in 1841. There are here now three very flourishing Lodges and two Encampments, with an active membership of five hundred and nineteen. Much good has resulted from the operations of Odd Fellowship in our midst. Apart from other good offices done by its members as such, they have distributed over twenty thousand dollars, during the past seventeen years, for the relief of the sick and distressed, and the burial of the dead.

It is a constitutional requirement, that "no person is entitled to admission to the Order except free white males, of good moral character, who have arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who believe in the Supreme Being, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe.

After a member of a lodge has obtained a sufficient number of degrees, and is found to be worthy, he can be admitted to the Encampment branch of the Order.

Every Lodge and Encampment in the State are respectively subordinate to the Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment of

Pennsylvania, and these are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the United States.

The principal officers, in every Lodge and Encampment, are elected by the members, and serve for six months; in the Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment they are elected by the past chief officers, (who vote in their respective subordinate bodies,) and serve for one year.

During the last year our townsman, R. A. Lamberton, was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, he having previously served one year as Dep. G. M., and a like period as G. Warden.

Since the organization of Lodges in Dauphin county, the following gentlemen have held the position of District Dep. G. Masters:—William Duncan, James B. Ruple, George V. Zeigler, John J. Clyde, R. A. Lamberton, Amos W. Young, Wm. D. Earnest, present D. D. G. M.

*Harrisburg Lodge, No. 68*, was instituted August 16, 1841, by John Y. Brown, Esq., Grand Master, who installed the following officers:—N. G., George V. Zeigler; V. G., William Good; S., Joseph Pilkinton; A. S., James N. Hoffman; T., William Duncan. Officers of the Lodge in October, 1858:—N. G., Andrew Schlager; V. G., Andrew J. Herr; S., Amos W. Young; A. S., Samuel Pass; T., John J. Osler. The number of active members—one hundred and twenty-eight. Meeting every Wednesday night, at the Exchange.

*State Capital Lodge, No. 70*, was instituted December 27, 1841, by John Y. Brown, Grand Master, and the following officers were then installed:—N. G., Joseph W. Cake; V. G., John M'Glauchlin; S., William Heis; T., Wm. H. Kepner. Officers of the Lodge in October, 1858:—N. G., Joseph Strominger; V. G., Thomas Humes; S., William D. Earnest; A. S., Josiah Jones; T., William T. Bishop. Number of active members at this time—one hundred and eighteen. Meeting every Tuesday night, at their Hall, North Second street.



*Dauphin Lodge, No. 160*, was instituted by P. G. Sire, Howell Hopkins, presiding as Grand Master, who installed the following officers:—N. G., Edward A. Lesley; V. G., Samuel Berry; S., Daniel E. Wilt; T., John Haldeman; A. S., Levi Wolfinger. Officers of the Lodge in October, 1858:—N. G., Henry Rada-baugh; V. G., George W. Blessing; S., Albert J. Fager; A. S., Daniel A. Bolt; T., Robert A. Lamberton. Number of active members—one hundred and fifty-two. Night of meeting, Thursday, at the Exchange.

SUBORDINATE ENCAMPMENTS.—D. D. G. C. P., Jacob M. Eyster.

*Dauphin Encampment, No. 10*, was instituted January 16, 1843, by Andrew C. Hewitt, Grand Patriarch, who installed as officers:—C. P., George V. Zeigler; H. P. Eby Byers; S. W., Samuel Bryan; J. W., Josiah S. Royal; S. William O. Hickok; T., John J. Osler. Officers in October, 1858:—C. P., Jacob M. Barr, H. P., Alfred Slentz; S. W., Emanuel A. Hassler; J. W., Daniel A. Bolt; S., Albert J. Fager; T., John J. Osler. Number of active members—sixty-five. Meeting night, first and third Friday of every month, at the Exchange.

*Olive Encampment, No. 56*, was instituted February 26, 1847, by Deputy Grand Patriarch William Duncan, acting as G. P., and the following officers were then installed:—C. P., John J. Clyde; H. P., Benjamin Kreider; S. W., Samuel Berry; J. W., John J. Osler; S., John M'Glaughlin; T., John Irwin. Officers in October, 1858:—C. P., Henry Dickman; H. P., Samuel Miley; S. W., William Kuhns; J. W., Joseph Strominger; S., William D. Earnest; T., William T. Bishop. The number of active members—fifty-six. Meeting night, first and third Wednesdays in every month.

*Brotherly Love Lodge, No. 796*, (colored,) meets every Monday evening in Eby's building, foot of Market street. Has about one hundred members. We have no further particulars.

UNION BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—This Society, composed entirely of ladies, was instituted about the year 1820. The average amount of funds distributed by it annually, to the indigent of the borough, is about three hundred dollars. Officers of the Society in October, 1858:—President, Miss Sarah Henderson; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. James W. Weir.

---

THE HARRISBURG BENEFICIAL SOCIETY is one of the oldest of its kind in the borough. It has about one hundred and ninety members, who meet on the last Saturday of every month in the lecture room of the English Lutheran Church. Officers in 1858:—President, George P. Wiestling; Vice President, Thomas Worley; Secretary, John R. Boyd; Treasurer, George H. Small; Door-keeper, Isaac Durstine.

---

CENTRAL DIVISION, No. 10, S. of T., was instituted August 13, 1844, and incorporated by the Court in 1848. We regret to learn that the organization, at present, is not in a very flourishing condition. It meets in the Hall, owned by the Division, at the corner of South and Second streets. Its present officers, as far as we can learn, are L. G. Cunkle, W. P.; George P. Wiestling, R. S.; Dr. Heisley, F. S.; John A. Weir, T.

---

FULTON COUNCIL, No. 35, O. U. A. M., was instituted January 11, 1847, with twenty members. Present number of members about one hundred. The Council meets on Monday nights, in the upper story of Wyeth's Hall, Market street. Officers in October, 1858:—Councillor, Daniel Basore; Vice Councillor, George Fry; Recording Secretary, Alfred Slentz; Assistant Recording Secretary, David Crawford; Financial Secretary, John J. Zimmerman; Instructor, — Gould; Examiner, William Dehart; Inside Protector, Edward Pancake; Outside Protector,

John Peltz; Treasurer, William J. Lawrence; Trustees, David Crawford, James Wright, William Wykoff. The State Council meets in Harrisburg in January of every year.

---

GERMAN BENEFICIAL SOCIETY—Instituted September 26, 1856. Has upwards of seventy members, and is conducted almost upon the same plan as the Odd Fellows' Lodges. Secrecy, however, is not deemed especially important. The dues, which each person is required to pay weekly, are merely nominal, but the disbursements to sick members are amply sufficient for their support. Meetings are held weekly, on every Saturday evening, at Wagner's hotel. Officers in October, 1858:—President, P. Meyer; Secretary, John Essig; Treasurer, Philip Britsch; Sick Committee, J. Weiss, Max. Eichroth, L. Weltz.

---

HARRISBURG UNION, No. 21, D. OF T., is an organization composed of females, designed to promote the cause of temperance in the borough. It was first instituted February 19, 1846, and the following named ladies were its charter members:—Jane M. Bryan, Mary J. Hummel, Lydia M. Lawrence, Mary Martin, Maria Berryhill, Mary Gieger, Harriet A. Fox, Margaret A. Davis, Mary Wilt, Marianna Beader, Matilda C. John, Elizabeth Mytinger, Julia Norton, Anna Markley, Sarah Ann Fleming, Anna B. Murnane, Mary Putman, Mary Ann Vogleson, Sarah Bostick, Anna Carpenter, Elizabeth Douglas, Elizabeth D. Shoemaker, Eliza Ann Davis, Susanna Wood, Eliza Carpenter, Elizabeth Chayne, Maria Mytinger, Fanny H. Awl, and Mary Stehley.

The organization at present numbers about sixty members, who meet every Friday evening in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Second street

Officers in October, 1858:—Presiding Sister, Miss Julia Ann Norton; Associate Sister, Miss Sabina Kelker; Recording

Scribe, Mrs. L. M. Lawrence; Financial Scribe, Mrs. Caroline Cunkle; Treasurer, Mrs. Susan Foltz; Conductress, Mrs. Eliza A. Barr; Guardian, Elizabeth Varnick.

---

GOOD SAMARITAN COUNCIL, (colored) I. O. OF D. T., meets in State street, between Fourth and Short. We can give no additional particulars.

---

SA-OS-QUA-HA-NA-UNK TRIBE, No. 12, I. O. OF R. M., was first instituted in Harrisburg in the lodge year 5610, corresponding with the year of our Lord 1848. It progressed rapidly for a while, but owing to the apathy of its members and financial embarrassments it gradually commenced to decline, until the year 5615, (1853,) when it suspended altogether.

It was revived again, however, in the year 5617, (1855,) under very favorable auspices, and is now in a very flourishing condition. It is a secret beneficial society. The officers of the society in October, 1858, were as follows:—Sachem, Joseph P. Miller; Senior Sagamore, Joseph Berrier; Junior Sagamore, Jacob Etter; Keeper of Wampum, Joseph H. Bowman; Chief of Records, William Kuhn.

---

SALEM LODGE, No. 26, I. O. B. B., (B'nai B'rith,) was organized on the 24th of February, 1856, and at present consists of forty members, all Israelites. The order inculcates friendship and fraternal feeling, gives consolation and grants assistance to the sick, lends a helping hand to the distressed and those that are bowed down with care, dries the tears of the widow and the orphan, awakens sympathy for a brother in all the various changes and different phases of his life, and tries to ameliorate the burden of unpropitious fate.

The Grand Lodge of New York is the highest tribunal of the

order. Salem Lodge, No. 26, is under the jurisdiction of the District Grand Lodge, No. 3, at Philadelphia. The election of officers is held every six months. The lodge meets every Sunday evening at the Sons of Temperance Hall.

Officers in October, 1858 :—D. Block, President; J. Lowengardt, V. P.; J. Dinkelspiel, C.; William Wolf, S.; H. Hess, M.; S. Rosenthal, I. G.; N. Adler, O. G. Ex-Presidents of the Lodge—Lazarus Bernhard, William Wolf, and Joseph Newman.

A benevolent society, composed of Jewish females, also exists in the borough, but we could not obtain any particulars of its organization.

---

WASHINGTON LODGE, No. 107, I. O. of G. T., was instituted January 28, 1854. Its members are composed of respectable males and females, the former over fourteen and the latter over sixteen years of age. The initiation fee is fifty cents, and the annual dues for male members one dollar and four cents, and for female members fifty-two cents, payable quarterly in advance. The members derive no pecuniary benefit from the lodge when incapacitated from pursuing their regular occupation. The organization numbers about three hundred members, and is very serviceable in the cause of temperance. It meets every Thursday evening, in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Second street.

The following is a list of the first officers of the Lodge :—William T. Bishop, W. C. T.; Lydia M. Lawrence, W. V. T.; J. J. Clyde, W. C.; William J. Lawrence, W. S.; William H. Egle, A. S.; Henry Radabaugh, W. F. S.; Jane Meredith, W. T.; William P. Coulter, W. M.; J. Isadore Lawrence, D. M.; Mary M. Barr, I. G.; Joseph H. Bowman, O. G.; Martha B. Nevin, R. H. S.; Ann E. Barr, L. H. S. Officers in November, 1858 :—W. C. T., James A. Carman; W. V. T., Jane Wyant; W. S., William T. Bishop, Jr.; W. T., Hannah Westfall; W. F. S., William T. Bishop; W. A. S., Jennie Mere-

dith; W. M., Isaac W. Hoffman; W. D. M., Mary C. Kunkle; W. I. G., Jennie Croll; W. O. G., William C. Kurtz; W. R. S., Laura F. Lawrence; W. L. S., Agnes M'Marland; W. C., La Rue Lamer; Trustees, J. A. Carman, J. M. Barr, George H. Morgan; L. D. G. W. C. T. and D. T., George H. Morgan; D. D. G. W. C. T., T. L. Tompkinson; G. W. C. T. of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, J. Hannum Jones.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

OLD SOLDIERS' UNION.—A Society composed of the surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, residing in this vicinity, was organized in the borough a few years ago, and at present numbers about thirty members. The Society has no stated times of meeting; but join annually in celebrating the anniversary of American Independence, by a public dinner. Officers in 1858:—John Maglaughlin, President; William Allison, George J. Heisely, Vice Presidents; David Harris, Secretary; James R. Boyd, Treasurer; Andrew Krause, Marshal.

---

HARRISBURG BUILDING ASSOCIATION was organized in 1857, for the purpose of buying land, laying it off into building lots, and improving the same for re-sale. The Association, at present, own about ten acres of fine meadow land, adjacent to the north-western part of the borough, which they have laid out for building purposes. Several lots have already been disposed of. Officers in October, 1858:—President, A. Boyd Hamilton; Treasurer, La Rue Metzgar; Secretary, Robert L. Muench; Directors, J. Brisben Boyd, John Edwards, Theodore F. Scheffer, Albert Hummel, Eby Byers, David Maeyer, John Cunkle, Charles F. Muench, Daniel Eppley.

---

PARK ASSOCIATION was organized in November, 1855, as the constitution declares, "for the making of a course for train-

ing horses." The association has leased eighteen acres of land about one mile north of Harrisburg, which is inclosed with a substantial board fence, about ten feet high. The track within the enclosure is circular and one-half a mile in extent. Officers of the association in October, 1858 :—President, William F. Murray; Secretary, John H. Zeigler; Treasurer, J. C. Bombarger; Directors, B. G. Peters, William H. Kepner, Philip Linn, David J. Unger, William Metzgar, J. D. Hoffman, John Hoffer, F. P. Hæhnlen, Anthony King.

---

**GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION.**—An Association of this character was instituted in September, 1858, by Messrs. Robert L. Muench, James D. Daugherty, R. Ross Roberts and Daniel W. Seiler. A room sixty-five by twenty-five feet, with a fourteen feet ceiling, in the Exchange Building, Walnut street, has been leased for a term of years, which has been fitted up at considerable expense for the purposes of the association. The "Portico" is complete in every respect, and modeled after the directions of J. E. D'Alfonce, Professor in the St. Petersburg and Paris military schools. It, with the other implements of the Gymnasium, were constructed by Mr. Hildrup, of the Harrisburg Car Factory. Directors—Robert L. Muench, President; J. D. Daugherty, Treasurer; R. Ross Roberts, Daniel W. Seiler.

---

**DAUPHIN GUARD.**—A military company, with the above name, was formerly inspected and organized, in Harrisburg, on Friday evening, the 19th of November, 1858. A week previous to that time seventy-six signatures were appended to the constitution of the company. The uniform of the corps is similar to that worn by the celebrated Fifth Regiment (National Guard) of New York, consisting of gray cloth coat and pants striped with black, and a cap of the same material. The officers of the company, nominated a week previous to the inspection, were, Captain, E. W. Roberts; First Lieutenant, Eby Byers; Second Lieutenants, John H. Zeigler, William H. Miller.

## BANKS AND SAVINGS INSTITUTIONS.

**HARRISBURG BANK.**—This institution was chartered by the Legislature on the 9th of May, 1814, with a capital of \$300,000, and was regularly organized in the month of June of the same year, by the election of the following board of directors:—John M'Clury, Isaac Hershey, Henry Beader, Robert Harris, Christian Kunkel, John Howard, David Ferguson, William Wallace, Jacob M. Haldeman, Thomas Brown, John Shoch, Abraham Oves, and Peter Keller. William Wallace, Esq., was elected president, and John Downey, cashier. Of this organization, Mr. Peter Keller is the only surviving member.

The bank first went into operation at the then residence of its cashier, Mr. John Downey, in the building now owned and occupied by Dr. E. W. Roberts, in Second street, a few doors north-west of Cherry alley. The banking room was in Dr Roberts' present office; and the board of directors usually met in the front room on the second story. The bank remained there, however, only a few months, when it was removed into the brick building at present owned by the Messrs. Kelker, in Second street, next door north-west of the residence of Herman Alricks, Esq., where it remained until 1817, when it purchased from the Philadelphia Bank the brick building which that company had used as a branch, situated at the south-west corner of Market Square and Blackberry alley, in which it continued until the summer of 1854, when the building was torn down to give place to the present elegant structure; the bank in the mean time carrying on its business in the house adjoining, owned by Mr. Geiger.

We append a list of the presidents and cashiers of the bank from its first organization to the present day:

*Presidents.*—William Wallace, elected June, 1814; Thomas Elder, elected June 19, 1816; Jacob M. Haldeman, elected May 3, 1853; William M. Kerr, elected December 31, 1856.



*Cashiers.*—John Downey, elected June, 1814; John Forster, elected April 19, 1815; Henry Walters, elected November 25, 1833; James W. Weir, elected October 30, 1844.

*Directors* in November, 1858 :—William M. Kerr, Joseph Wallace, Valentine Hummel, Levi Merkel, Jacob Houser, William R Gorgas, John B Simon, Edward L. Orth, John W. Cowden, William J. Robinson, Jacob S. Haldeman, Daniel W. Gross, and Henry A. Kelker.

The following named persons are the present clerks of the bank :—George H. Small, John A. Weir, H. C. Fahnestock, J. Uhler; John Shanklin, messenger.

The statement of the bank for the month of November, 1858, published in pursuance of an act of Assembly, is as follows :

## ASSETS.

Loans and discounts, . . . . .	\$525,389 74
Stock of the Commonwealth, . . . . .	50,505 00
Specie, . . . . .	107,418 13
United States treasury notes, . . . . .	20,000 00
Due by other banks, . . . . .	\$148,763 32
Notes of other banks, . . . . .	18,255 00
	<hr/>
	167,018 32
Stocks, (at present market value,) . . . . .	31,000 00
Bonds, " " . . . . .	6,000 00
Real estate, . . . . .	11,600 00
	<hr/>
	<u>\$918,931 19</u>

## LIABILITIES.

Circulation, . . . . .	\$370,060 00
Deposits, . . . . .	181,425 67
Due to other banks, . . . . .	41,640 47
	<hr/>
	<u>\$593,126 14</u>

**DAUPHIN DEPOSITE BANK**—Chartered about the year 1839. The banking house stands at the corner of Market street and Raspberry alley. It is a neat structure, in the Grecian style, built of brick, stuccoed, and painted white to imitate marble. The following is a list of the officers of the bank:—President, James M'Cormick; Cashier, Robert J. Ross; Clerks, J. M. Kreider, N. H. Davis; Messenger, Jacob Miley.

---

**MECHANICS' SAVING BANK**—Chartered February 8, 1853, with a capital of \$50,000. The office of the bank is in Market street near Third. The following is a list of its present officers:—President, Philip Daugherty; Cashier, Jacob C Bombarger; Clerks, George Z. Kunkel and M. Daugherty; Messenger, Jacob Ettla.

#### INSURANCE COMPANIES.

**THE STATE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA.**—Capital, \$380,000. Incorporated in 1850. Office in Market street, near Fourth. Officers in October, 1858:—John P. Rutherford, President; A. J. Gillet, Secretary; Clerks, William A. Bowdoin, A. J. Foster, James Thompson; General Agent, Silas Ward.

---

**COMMONWEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY**—Chartered capital—\$300,000. Incorporated April 12, 1854. Office in Union Buildings, Third street. Officers in October, 1858:—Directors, Simon Cameron, George M. Lauman, William Dock, Eli Slifer, J. Brisben Boyd, George Bergner, Benjamin Parke, William H. Kepner, A. B. Warford, William F. Murray, F. K. Boas, J. H. Berryhill, William F. Packer. Officers, Simon Cameron, President; Benjamin Parke, Vice President; S. S. Carrier, Secretary; Clerks, T. Rockhill Smith and A. F. Small.

**CENTRAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**—Capital \$200,000. Incorporated April 14, 1851. Office, No. 5 South Market Square. Pays interest on deposits of money. Officers in October, 1858 :— President, William Colder, Jr.; Vice President, Isaac G. M'Kinley; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas H. Willson; Directors, William Colder, Jr., Isaac G. M'Kinley, David Mumma, Jr., Thomas H. Willson, Elias E. Kinzer, Isaac Mumma, James Young, Oliver Bellman, David Fleming, Daniel D. Boas, William F. Murray, John J. Clyde, George H. Bucher, Levi Mattson, Amos E. Kapp, Theodore D. Greenawalt; Clerks, William J. Lawrence, ——— Wilson.

---

**KEYSTONE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.**—Capital \$100,000. Incorporated in 1850. Office in Front street, near Market. Officers in October, 1858 :—Daniel W. Gross, President; Edward L. Orth, Vice President; John H. Berryhill, Corresponding Secretary; David Dasher, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The firemen of Harrisburg form an institution highly useful and philanthropic, and those who belong to it are "Always Ready" to expose their health and lives "*pro bono publico*," employing, in their voluntary mission, a constant energy and a devotion often heroic, meriting the sympathies of all good citizens and a high place in public opinion.

The present efficient method of subduing conflagrations in the borough, bears an aspect quite different from the early doings in such cases. Before hose and hydrants were introduced, and only pumps and buckets to keep the engines supplied, the scene was much more animating than now. There were then few or no idlers among the spectators. They made long lines of people to "pass the buckets;" and if there were any indolent lookers-

on, the cry was raised along the line "fall in," "fall in." If the summons was disregarded, perhaps a bucket of water was discharged upon the delinquents. Then it was quite common to see women in the ranks; and it was, therefore, the worse provoking to see others, of the opposite sex, giving no help, but urging their way as near to the fires as they could. Next day was a fine time for the boys to look out all the buckets they knew of belonging to their several neighbors, and carry them home. The street posts, too, could be seen capped, here and there, with a stray bucket asking for its owner. These buckets were made of leather, and had the owner's name or initials painted on the outside. Householders, generally, had them hanging in the entrys of their residences.

The compiler has not been able to determine, with any degree of accuracy, at what period the borough was first supplied with a fire engine. At the fire which partially destroyed the residence of Mr. James Sawyer, in Locust street, on Friday, the 25th of November, 1796, no mention is made of a fire engine; and Mr. Sawyer publicly returned his thanks to the "citizens (men and women) for their spirited exertions in extinguishing the flames."

Nor were there any fire apparatus here as late as March 8, 1797, as we judge by the following extract from the "Oracle of Dauphin," of March 15th, of that year:

"HARRISBURG, March 8, 1797.

At a meeting of the Harrisburg Free Debating Society, held this evening, Rev. Henry Möller in the Chair, the question, 'What can be proposed, which, if carried into effect, would be most beneficial to Harrisburg?' was put, and after an agreeable discussion, it was unanimously agreed 'That the making an inlet for boats, the erecting of wind-mills for grinding corn, the *procuring a fire engine*, and establishing a town watch, would be highly beneficial to Harrisburg, and might easily be carried into effect.'

JOHN BROWNE, *Secretary.*"

At the fire which broke out in the building occupied by Mr. William Porter as a cold nail factory, situated on the river bank, on Monday night, the 19th of February, 1798, no *direct* mention is made of a fire engine being used; but Mr. Porter, in publicly thanking the *ladies* and gentlemen for their assistance on that occasion, expresses his willingness to contribute his "part towards procuring *another* engine;" hence we reasonably infer that at this period there was at least one engine in the borough.

This was, most probably, the "Union," it being, according to tradition, the first fire apparatus in the borough. The "Union Fire Company" was dissolved about twenty or twenty-five years ago, and its apparatus, through disuse and neglect, was ruined beyond redemption. Messrs. Robert Sloan and Frederick Heiseley were directors, and George Capp secretary of the company in 1824.

The following Ordinance of the Town Council, passed July 13, 1813, will give the reader an idea of the state of the fire department at that period :

*An Act for the prevention of fires within the borough of Harrisburg :*

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the Town Council of the borough of Harrisburg, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same,* That it shall be the duty of every householder residing within the limits of the borough, either as owner, tenant or occupier, forthwith to join and become a member of the fire company to which his district belongs, and for neglect or refusal thereof, he shall forfeit and pay one dollar each month so neglected or refused, to be recovered in the manner hereinafter provided for the recovery of fines.

SEC. II. *And be it further ordained,* That every householder residing within the borough, whether male or female, either as owner, tenant or occupier, shall within ninety days after the newspaper promulgation of this ordinance, provide at least one leathern bucket for each and every story of the house by him

or her so occupied, under penalty of one dollar for each month's neglect thereof, and in case such occupier is a tenant, he, she or they, shall provide the same at the expense of the landlord or owner, and the reasonable cost thereof shall be deducted out of their rent respectively.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. IV. *And be it further ordained*, That for the purpose of establishing fire companies, the borough is hereby divided into two districts, to be called the Northern and Southern districts, the centre of Market street being the division, and that each company shall have power to form their own by-laws, and fix any fines or amercements for the contravention of such of their laws as are not incompatible with the constitution and laws of Pennsylvania, or of this borough, and that any fines or forfeitures so fixed shall be recoverable before the chief or assistant burgess for the uses in such by-laws expressed.

*By order of the Council.*

JACOB BUCHER, *President.*

JOHN KERN, *Town Clerk.*

It would appear by the above that at this period there were but *two* fire companies in the borough—one for the Southern and one for the Northern district. These were the “Union” and “Friendship” companies. In the newspapers printed here, however, at this period, we see the advertisements for meetings of the “North Ward Fire Company;” by which name, we presume, one of the above mentioned companies, situated in that ward, was sometimes called.

The following is a brief history of the several fire companies at present existing in the borough, in the order of their organization.

---

THE FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY.—This efficient company may be termed the patriarch of the present fire department in the borough, having been instituted previous to the year 1803,

and shortly after the organization of the Union Fire Company, although its oldest constitution only dates as far back as August 11, 1812.

The earliest document in the possession of the company is what purports to be a list of "sundry members of the Friendship Fire Company who are indebted the sums annexed to their names respectively, the account being down to the yearly meeting, November 7, 1809, including said meeting." The list is attested by James Maginnis, Secretary. The first debtor on the list is Thomas Ridge, and the amount of his indebtedness was as follows :

"1808, August 1.—To sundry fines,	. . . .	10 shillings.
1804, August 7, " " "	. . . .	11 shillings.
1808, Febr'y 2, " " "	. . . .	3 shillings."

Messrs. Samuel Pool, Michael Krell, Albright Weaver, John Krepp, Isaiah M'Farland, and Patrick Burk, were also debtors to the company at this period. The indebtedness arose from tax and fines.

"Messrs. Sawyer, Glass, Brua, Norton, Dorsheimer, managers of the company, and the secretary, met at the house of John Norton, February 9, 1808, for the purpose of holding an appeal; whereat B. Kurtz appealed ten shillings; Mr. George, five shillings; Mr. Laberty, five shillings; Mr. Glass, five shillings; and Mr. Dorsheimer, one shilling; whereupon, it was agreed that Mr. Goodman should give every one that is indebted to the company a call for the pay; and them that don't pay shall be sued."—*Manuscript minutes of managers, Feb. 9, 1808.*

Among the names of the members of the company in 1808, we recognize many of those whose descendants still reside in the borough. These are, Messrs. John Zinn, Samuel Pool, Abraham Rupley, Andrew Berryhill, Moses Gillmore, John Mytinger, Joseph Young, Samuel Bryan, Christian Stahl, John Forster,\* James Brown, Samuel Black, Dr. Hall, Dr. Cleaveland, Peter Keller,\* Joseph Doll, James Sawyers, Frederick

Felty, George Boyer, Jacob Boas, John Wyeth, John Wingard, Jacob Zeigler,\* George Roberts, and Benj. Bowman, secretary.

Obed Fahnestock was president of the company in 1812, and Christian Gleim secretary and treasurer in 1813. In 1818, Abram Bombaugh was the treasurer, who was succeeded in 1819 by Obed Fahnestock. Jacob Seiler was secretary of the company in 1827.

From this period we can find no records of the company until 1848, when it adopted a new constitution, and in many respects increased its efficiency.

The first hose carriage of the company was purchased a short time after the introduction of water into the borough. The old engine being too limited in its capacity, and its wood work partially rotten, the company applied for and obtained the old "Harrisburg" engine, which belonged to a company of that name formerly existing in the borough. This was used by the company for several years, when it was found defective, and was then abandoned.

The company was then granted the use of the "United States"—a powerful second-class engine, formerly used by a company of that name in Middletown, but owned by Judge W. F. Murray, who had it brought here for sale. The Town Council, however, refused to buy it, and in lieu thereof purchased in Philadelphia the splendid second-class engine at present in the service of the company.

The apparatus of the company is in excellent condition, and of the most effective character. The members are composed of young and respectable mechanics, who, when duty calls, are ever among the first to respond.

The building owned by the company stands directly on the bank of the river, above Market street. It is a neat frame structure, two stories high, but has been found to be entirely too small for its purposes; and the Town Council contemplate erect-

\* Still living in the borough.



ing a new one of brick, corresponding with those occupied by the other companies.

Officers of the company in October, 1858 :—President, Harry O. Shaffer ; Vice President, Henry M'Gowen, Jr. ; Secretary, David K. Rudy ; Treasurer, Andrew Schlayer ; Directors, Henry Rose, Joseph Barger, Jacob Etter, Jacob Rohrer, J. C. Vogle-song, W. Gibson, G. M. Booth, Samuel Davis ; Inspectors, H. Soloman, J. Schlayer, A. Stees, J. Newman, C. Weaver ; Chief Engineer, William Haehtlen ; Assistant Engineer, Joseph Berrier.

---

**THE HOPE HOSE AND ENGINE COMPANY.**—This association was instituted on the 6th day of January, 1814, and was the third of its kind organized after the town was laid out. Its co-temporaries were the "Union" and "Friendship." Captain Thomas Walker was the first vice president of the company, and the late Hon. John C. Bucher held that office in 1819. In 1823, Mr. Bucher was president, and in the year following Henry Buehler was secretary of the company. Joseph Wallace, Henry Antes, Dr. Heisely, Dr. Orth, and other prominent citizens were at one time members of the company.

The long time which has elapsed since its first organization, and the number of changes in the affairs of the company, render it extremely difficult to obtain any considerable knowledge of its early history. We know, however, that the first engine of the company was manufactured in Philadelphia by the celebrated Pat Lyon—him of bank prosecution memory—at a cost of \$1200, and that it was capable of throwing *two hogsheds of water per minute!*

After the erection of the water works, the company added to their apparatus a beautiful hose carriage.

Shortly after this period the affairs of the company seem to have been in a depressed condition until January, 1853, when a number of public spirited citizens residing in the upper part

of the borough joined together and effected its complete reorganization, under the auspices of the Town Council.

A beautiful second-class engine, capable of throwing two side and a gallery stream, manufactured by G. Agnew, of Philadelphia, was purchased at a cost of \$1350.

In March, 1858, the company also replaced their hose carriage by a neat "spider" or "crabb," at a cost of \$100; and in September, 1858, the company further increased its efficiency by obtaining a beautiful hook and ladder apparatus, which has thus been described :

"The length between the coupling is twenty-eight feet; the length of the longest ladder is forty-two feet, and of the shortest fifteen feet. There are six ladders. The body of the carriage is painted white, and the ornamental work handsomely gilt. The iron work is of good quality, and partly polished. The springs are of good steel. A bell is attached to one of the axles, which sounds the alarm when proceeding to a fire. Axes, iron-tipped poles, picks and lanterns are placed in proper positions, and the whole is surmounted with a beautiful signal lamp. The cost of the carriage, ladders, &c., was \$800, to which must be added \$14 paid for a silver fire horn, and \$20 freight to the Pennsylvania railroad. It was manufactured by Mr. C. Schantz, of Philadelphia."

The building occupied by the company is situated in North Second street, above State. It is a neat brick structure, two stories high, surmounted with a cupola containing an alarm bell.

Officers in October, 1858 :—President, William H. Kepner; Vice President, Joseph Strominger; Secretary, Robert R. Barr; Treasurer, Andrew K. Black; Engineer, Thomas Stevenson; Assistant Engineers, J. Cunkle, W. W. Wright; Directors, William Hutman, Jacob Cunkle, Samuel Cline, William Putt, Robert R. Barr, William M'Coy, Charles Jacobs, Thomas J. Black.

**THE CITIZEN HOSE AND ENGINE COMPANY.**—This efficient fire company was organized in the year 1836. Its first officers were William Bostick, Sr., President; Henry Lyne, Vice President; George S. Kemble, Treasurer, and William Parkhill, Secretary.

The Company, shortly after its organization, purchased a beautiful and powerful engine, at a cost of nine hundred and fifty dollars. It is of second class capacity, throwing a gallery and two side streams, and was manufactured at the celebrated establishment of Joel Bates, in Philadelphia.

The power and effectiveness of this engine was fully tested at the disastrous fires which occurred in the summer and fall of 1838, at the opposite corners of Fourth and Market streets.—At these fires it rendered the most important services, in consequence of being provided with a suction apparatus, which forced water from the canal, thus, in a great measure, dispensing with the then prevailing system of "bucket lines."

The introduction of water and hydrants into the borough created a material change in the operations of the fire department. The "bucket lines" above referred to, gave way to hose, and it was necessary that the several fire companies should be provided with this article. The "Citizen" company was the first in the borough to respond to this necessity, and accordingly purchased, in Philadelphia, a beautiful hose carriage, and sixteen hundred feet of hose, the former at a cost of \$285.

With this useful addition the company required the privileges and powers of an incorporation, and accordingly an application for a charter was made and granted by the Court of Common Pleas in 1841. It was discovered, however, by time and experience, that this charter was defective; accordingly at a meeting of the company, held May 12, 1858, a new constitution and by-laws were proposed, and a committee appointed to petition the court for their approval. This committee peti-

tioned the court on the 13th of May, 1858 ; and on the 23rd of August following, the court granted the prayer of the petitioners, by directing that the said constitution and by-laws shall "thereafter be deemed and taken to be the instrument on which said Association shall be governed as firemen."

The first hose carriage having become dilapidated by time and service, the company, in the fall of 1856, purchased in Philadelphia a new one, handsomely mounted with silver and other embellishments, at a cost of about \$1,000.

In addition to this, the company, shortly afterwards, procured a handsome "Spider," which was manufactured to order by R. J. Fleming, of Harrisburg, and cost about two hundred dollars.

The company, in October, 1858, increased its efficiency by procuring a "Button Engine"—a lately patented fire apparatus, manufactured at Waterford, New York, a trial of which, in front of Brant's Hall, was thus noticed in the "Daily Telegraph:" "She did nobly and more than realized the expectations of the most sanguine members of the Citizen company.—In our opinion the Engine is fully equal to three ordinary machines of the old style, and ranks next to the steam fire engines lately adopted in the various cities. On the first trial she threw a stream of water through a  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch nozzle a distance of two hundred and one feet. On the second trial she threw two streams at once through  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch nozzles a distance of one hundred and sixty-five feet each. On the third trial she threw five streams at once through  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch nozzles from one hundred and five to one hundred and twenty-one feet. When this feat was accomplished the members of the Citizen company, pleased with the success of their new machine, made the welkin ring with repeated and enthusiastic cheers for the Engine and its manufacturer. On the fourth trial, the largest nozzle—one and-a-half inch—was used, and this powerful volume of water was thrown a distance of one hundred and sixty-seven feet. The machine gave entire satisfaction in every respect. This is the

largest engine of the kind in the State, weighs thirty-five hundred pounds, requires fifty men to work it, and cost \$2,050 delivered here."

The engine is provided with a suction apparatus.

The building of the company is situated in Fourth street, above Walnut. It is a neat brick structure, two stories high, surmounted with a wooden cupola and a "look-out." The first story is devoted to the apparatus of the company, and the second, which is very handsomely furnished, to the meetings of the company.

The company is composed, principally, of young and industrious citizens of respectable character, who are always among the first when duty calls.

Officers in November, 1858 :—President, Dr. Christian Seiler; Vice President, Richard J. Haldeman; Standing Committee, George Bailey, John Denwiddie and Joseph Montgomery; Secretary, Augustus L. Carst; Assistant Secretary, William H. H. Sieg; Treasurer, James Black; Engineer, George Fager; Assistant Engineers, Alexander W. Barr, George Bailey; Captain of Hose, Joseph Sheets; Directors, Ed. W. Shell, Charles Frank, George W. Krause, Samuel Miller, William Walters, Herman Frisch, Thomas Nelly, Newton Shoop, J. L. Sengenberger.

---

**THE WASHINGTON HOSE COMPANY.**—The example of the Citizen Fire Company in procuring hose to meet the requirements of the change in the fire department, caused by the introduction of water into the borough, was followed by the organization of a company whose apparatus consists exclusively of hose and its carriage.

Being convinced of the utility of such an organization, a number of young men met in the dining room of the "United States" Hotel, on the corner of Second and Mulberry streets, on Wednesday evening, January 27th, 1841, for the purpose of

organization, and to raise funds to purchase a hose carriage. A committee was appointed to solicit money, by subscription, to purchase a carriage, and on the 5th of February, 1841, that committee reported that sufficient amount had been subscribed by the citizens, when John L. Martin was deputed to purchase the carriage of the Washington Hose Company, of Philadelphia, at a cost of one hundred and eighty dollars. The carriage was received on the 20th of March, 1841, and at the same time the Town Council furnished the company with six hundred feet of hose. On Friday evening, April 2nd, 1841, the company was regularly organized, and denominated the "Washington Hose Company," of Harrisburg, Pa.—a constitution and by-laws adopted, and the following officers were elected:—President, Levi Wolfinger; Vice President, John L. Martin; Secretary, E. S. German; Treasurer, David Lingle. From this period the company has been one of the most active and efficient in the borough.

On the 3rd day of May, 1843, application was made to the Court of Dauphin county for an act of incorporation, which was granted on the 2nd day of September, 1843, and recorded on the 8th day of September, 1843, in deed book P, volume 2, page 432.

The want of a suitable building for the carriage, and a room for the meetings of the company, was a great inconvenience; and prompted by the generosity previously manifested by the citizens, it was proposed, and a committee appointed on the 5th of January, 1844, to devise ways and means to raise funds to erect a suitable house. That committee was kindly received, and contributions liberally given, so that in a very short time *money* and *labor* was sufficiently subscribed to build a comfortable, neat and substantial house.

On the 2nd of February, 1844, a lot of ground was purchased on the corner of Second street and Meadow Lane, from C. L. Berghaus, Esq., for the sum of ninety dollars.

. The building was commenced on the 4th of March, 1844, and on the 23rd of March, 1844, the corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The building was completed on the 3rd of August, 1844. It is one of the most perfect of the kind in the State, being provided with all the most approved accommodations suitable to the character of the uses to which it is applied. The first, or ground floor, is occupied by the apparatus of the company, and communicates with Second street by means of two large folding doors, rendering a free and rapid exit or entrance. The second story is appropriated to meetings, &c., and is furnished in the highest style of magnificence—resembling, indeed, more the luxurious appointments of a fashionable drawing-room than anything we can compare it to. Imported ingrain carpeting—four walnut divans and sofas, whose yielding cushions invite repose—centre tables—fancy desks for the officers—gothic cottage chairs—damask curtains—gas chandelier—glass book-cases, well filled with instructive volumes—and beautiful paintings, constitute but a portion of its elegant and costly furniture. We opine that a sight of this room would make some of our city brethren stare. To some, perhaps, these arrangements might seem superfluous; but we incline to the opinion that the superior order and beauty exhibited there, has a tendency to cherish and promote a refined taste among the members themselves. The entire building is heated by a large furnace in the cellar, and the arrangements for cleaning their hose, &c., are perfectly in keeping with the character of those we have already described. The cost of the building was eight hundred dollars.

The carriage being old and ill-suited, another was proposed and urged of more modern construction, for which object members were chosen to raise money by subscription, and on the 22nd day of May, 1850, a contract was made with George Ruhl, of Philadelphia, to build a “crab” or hose carriage for the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, which was completed and

given into the charge of a committee on the 5th of October, 1850. The company is clear of all indebtedness.

Officers in October, 1858:—President, John H. Zeigler; Vice President, Alfred A. Pancake; Secretary, Peter Bernheisel, Jr.; Treasurer, George H. Bell; Directors, George Pancake, John F. C. Dace, John Bernheisel, Samuel Bernheisel, Charles H. Etter, George W. Hoffman; Inspectors, Peter K. Boyd, Frederick P. Hæhnlan, Thomas W. Peoples, Charles Gordon, Albert R. Shoop.

---

MOUNT VERNON HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY.—This company was first organized on the 5th of April, 1858, under the name of the "Independent Hook and Ladder Company," which was changed in August or September following, to the "Mount Vernon Hook and Ladder Company."

The following is a list of the first officers of the company:—President, William C. A. Lawrence; Vice President, Richard B. M. Berkman; Secretary, William B. Wilson; Treasurer, J. A. Carman; Board of Directors, David G. May, Thomas W. Anderson, Frank A. Murray and Robert G. Denning; Elective Board, David G. May, T. Rock Smith and Thomas W. Anderson.

The apparatus of the company was manufactured by Mr. R. J. Fleming, of Harrisburg, and cost eight hundred dollars. It consists of a carriage, hooks and ladders, &c., and has been thus described:

"The total length of the apparatus is forty-eight feet; the length of coupling twenty-seven feet, and the length of the largest ladder forty feet. The iron work is polished, the springs of steel, and the axles of turned iron. The wheels and body are elegantly varnished, and decorated with gilt and carved work, the knobs being tipped with brass. The wood work is painted of a dark claret color, and durably constructed. Axes, picks and lanterns are provided, and secured in proper positions



about the carriage; and a beautiful signal lamp surmounts the whole."

The company, in 1858, occupied the two story frame building on the east corner of Locust street and Raspberry alley, which was altered and arranged for its accommodation.

Officers in October, 1858 :—President, William C. A. Lawrence; Vice President, William B. Wilson; Secretary, A. F. Small; Assistant Secretary, Henry Uhler; Treasurer, T. Rock Smith; Directors, Frank A. Murray, David G. May, George Denning, Jacob G. May, John Bigler; Electing Committee, Thomas W. Anderson, Frank A. Murray, Charles Reigle.

#### BRIDGES.

**THE HARRISBURG BRIDGE.**—By an act of the Legislature, approved April 2, 1811, the Governor of the Commonwealth was "authorized and directed to subscribe a sum not exceeding \$90,000 to the stock of the company, which may hereafter be incorporated, for building a bridge over the Susquehanna at Harrisburg; one-half to be paid when the piers and abutments shall have been constructed, and the other when the superstructure shall have been raised." The same act made appropriations for similar bridges at Northumberland, Columbia and M'Calls Ferry.

The act authorizing the erection of the bridge was passed April 3, 1809.

The company to construct the bridge at Harrisburg, was chartered July 6, 1812, and organized on the 8th of August following.

The first foundation stone of the bridge was laid December 2, 1812.

The board of directors, in submitting a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the company, down to the 30th of July, 1813, made the following report :

"In addition thereto they beg leave to inform the company, that they have contracted with Mr. Theodore Burr, to build said bridge for the sum of one hundred and eighty thousand dollars; thirty-five thousand dollars thereof he is to take in stock, the residue to be paid to him in proportion as the work progresses; he is to find all the materials, and to have the bridge completed on the first day of December, 1815.

They have also contracted with the administrators of the late William Maclay, deceased, for the privilege of attaching the bridge to the island on both sides, and of making and extending a road across it, on terms which they conceive will be advantageous to all the parties concerned.

The work has been commenced and is in as great a state of forwardness as could be reasonably expected for the time.

Notwithstanding the preparations that were indispensable at the commencement of a work of such magnitude; yet in a little better than three months from the time it was began, two of the abutments are finished as high as to where the wooden work commences, and the third is rapidly progressing. The work appears to be very substantial, and composed of the best materials. A large quantity of stone is prepared, and as soon as the river is sufficiently low, the piers will be commenced, with an additional number of hands; and from the superior qualifications of Mr. Burr, as a bridge builder, aided by an industry and perseverance seldom equalled, there is every reason to believe, that the bridge will be finished within the time specified in the contract.

The president and directors (in compliance with their duty) inform the company, that the Governor, under the authority of an act of Assembly, has subscribed for ninety thousand dollars worth of stock, in behalf of the commonwealth, which sum will be paid, under the direction of said act, by his warrants drawn on the State Treasury.

It is with no small degree of satisfaction that the board have

it in their power to inform the company, that the displeasure expressed by some of the stockholders, on account of the site of the bridge being fixed at the place where it is now erecting, has nearly subsided. It would have been an extraordinary circumstance, if all had been satisfied, when so great a variety of local interests were interfering with each other—it was more than could be expected. The few who yet remain opposed, are so very small in number, and their proportion of stock in comparison so very trifling, as to render their opposition of little consequence.

Nothing is now wanting, to forward the work with spirit, but prompt and punctual payments on the part of stockholders; and when each individual stockholder reflects that by *such* payments, he is hastening and promoting his own interest, it is confidently hoped and expected, that he will not withhold the requisite aid.

Thos Elder, President; Jacob M. Haldeman, Jno. Ritchey, George Brenizer, Samuel C. Wiestling, John Howard, William Bryson, George Hoyer, Jacob Boas, Henry Beader, Michael Krehl, John Mytinger, Directors.

*Attest, JOHN DOWNEY, Treasurer.*

*July 31, 1813."*

The first toll was received by the company October 16, 1816. The bridge and toll-houses were completed in 1817, at a total cost of \$192,138

The bridge is built upon the "Burr plan;" and is separated by Forster's Island. Its total length, including the island, is about two-thirds of a mile; width, forty feet, and has an elevation of fifty feet.

That part of the structure between the island and the borough was carried away by the great freshet of March 15, 1846, and for about eighteen months afterwards the passage was made to and from the island by means of a "rope ferry." The rope used on this occasion was about three inches in diameter, and sus-

pended between the two abutments, supported in the centre by masts on the piers. The flats were connected to this rope by two small guy ropes; and by an ingenious contrivance were propelled across the stream by the action of the descending current.

The rope, especially during high water, frequently obstructed the passage of the rafts and arks descending the river, and was finally cut by one of the incensed river men with an axe.

The present structure was erected and rendered passable on the 20th of September, 1847. It is distinguished for its strength and graceful proportions, affording a striking contrast with the antique, though still firm, part of the first structure spanning the river on the western side of the island.

---

CUMBERLAND VALLEY RAILROAD BRIDGE.—The first bridge owned by this company, across the Susquehanna, was commenced in the summer of 1836, and opened for locomotive traveling January 16, 1839.

It was constructed upon the lattice plan, with three frames, and covered with a strong deck of three inch plank, laid watertight to protect the timbers from the weather.

A single T rail was laid on the deck along the middle of the bridge.

The under part of the frame work was arranged for two carriage ways for common road vehicles, &c, and two foot paths for passengers. By an act of the Legislature, however, the company was prohibited from using it for any other than railroad purposes until the year 1841.

The carriage ways were nine-and-a-half feet wide, and thirteen feet high in the clear. The foot paths were three-and-a-half feet wide, set up three feet above the lower roadways, in order to admit outside braces from below to the lattice frames.

The main bridge was four thousand feet long; and, including the end bridges, four thousand three hundred feet long. There were twenty-three spans of about one hundred and sixty-five

feet each. The piers were six-and-a-half feet wide at the top, and had a batter all around of one inch to the foot rise. They were thirty feet long at the top, and from thirty to sixty feet long at the base.

The highest piers were forty-two feet above low water; the lowest twenty-two feet.

The western end was twenty feet higher than the Harrisburg end. This plan was adopted to reduce the heavy grade on the Cumberland side of the river.

The total cost of the bridge was \$110,000. Of this sum the mason work cost \$40,000; the timber and other materials about \$40,000, and the framing and building of the superstructure \$30,000.

The railway track was completed, and the bridge publicly opened for locomotive use on the 16th of January, 1839. The first trip was made from the western end. The train consisted of three locomotives, three double passenger cars, and two baggage cars—the locomotive “Nicholas Biddle” having the lead.

The president, managers, and engineers of the company, together with the bridge contractors, and about three hundred gentlemen, present by invitation, occupied the cars and locomotives.

Several thousand persons assembled on the bank of the river to witness the opening ceremony, which was an imposing spectacle.

The train moved slowly and majestically over the bridge at the rate of twenty miles per hour, and upon entering Mulberry street, the air resounded with a welcome huzza.

To test the strength of the bridge a locomotive was subsequently run over it in one minute, without causing the slightest vibratory motion.

This splendid bridge was destroyed by fire, excepting four spans at its eastern end, in December, 1844.

The work of constructing another bridge, at the same place,

was completed in 1846. This was also on the lattice plan, but differed materially in appearance with the former structure.—The passage way for footmen was in the centre of the two carriage ways, but was never used for this purpose, it being found necessary to occupy the place by cross staunchions for the interior lattice frames. The bridge and track were originally covered with a shingle roof, which was subsequently taken away, as it was thought to endanger the structure by the great resistance it offered to the wind.

This bridge stood until 1855 or 1856, when it was removed for the present beautiful structure, which was erected within the old one, without causing any serious interruption to the car travel. The two spans which crosses the island are constructed of iron, calculated to resist the progress of fire, that at any time might occur on either of the sides which they divide.

The company sold its right to collect tolls over the bridge to the Harrisburg Bridge Company on the 4th of January, 1855.

Mr. Rudolph F. Kelker has kindly furnished the compiler with the following memoranda respecting this bridge:

May 7, 1836, Cumberland Valley Railroad Bridge located opposite Mulberry street.

May 9, 1836, ground first broke for abutment on the east side of the river.

June 18, 1838, commenced laying timber of bridge.

January 16, 1839, at two-and-a-half o'clock, P. M. first locomotive crossed the river on the bridge.

#### RAILROADS AND CANALS.

There is no town in Pennsylvania that is so advantageously situated, with respect to railroad connection, as Harrisburg.—From every point of the compass these great public thoroughfares of travel and trade enter the borough, and passengers and freight trains arrive and depart almost every hour, giving to

the town, at least that part of it adjacent to the depot, a scene of constant bustle and activity.

The following is a list of the railroads either terminating at or passing through the borough.:

Pennsylvania Central, east to Philadelphia; west, to Pittsburg.

The Northern Central, south to Baltimore; North, to Sunbury.

The Cumberland Valley, west to Chambersburg.

The Lebanon Valley, north-east to Reading.

The Dauphin and Susquehanna, north-east to Pinegrove and Pottsville.

On the Pennsylvania Central four passenger trains arrive and depart daily, beside emigrant and freight trains.

On the other roads two trains depart and arrive daily.

The Pennsylvania Canal passes through the eastern part of the borough.

#### THE PRESS OF HARRISBURG.

"The Press! whose vantage ground is Mind;  
Language, its sceptre of control;  
Its chariot wheels are thoughts that roll  
And leave a track of light behind."

The newspapers of Harrisburg have long been distinguished for the ability with which they are conducted—their independent expression of opinion upon all subjects—and the neatness of their typographical appearance.

The compiler, after the most diligent search and inquiry, has been unable to procure, with any degree of correctness, a history or even a list of the many newspapers that have been published here since the field was first occupied by the "Oracle of Dauphin," previously noticed, and shall consequently confine his sketches to those only which at present exist:

**THE WEEKLY PRESS.**—The "*Harrisburg Weekly Telegraph*" is the patriarch of the Harrisburg press—being the "lineal descendant" of the "Oracle of Dauphin," established in 1791—the first newspaper printed in Harrisburg.

Under its present title it is in its twenty-eighth volume, and on the 15th of September last had published 4,644 numbers. It is a folio of large double medium size, containing twenty-eight columns of closely printed reading matter and advertisements. During the session of the Legislature it is issued twice a week. The price of subscription is \$2 per annum. It is American Republican in politics, and enjoys a large circulation and advertising patronage. Messrs. George Bergner & Co. are its present publishers. The publication office is in Third street, near Walnut.

The "*Church Advocate*," devoted to the diffusion of Bible truth, religious news, and general intelligence, is published once a week by E. H. Thomas, J. S. Gable and George Ross for the General Eldership of the "Church of God." It is a quarto, printed on a super-royal sheet, containing thirty-two columns of reading matter and advertisements, and is in its twenty-third volume. It is edited with much ability by Rev. James Colder. The price of subscription is \$1.50 per annum. It is published in Fourth street, between Market and Walnut streets.

The "*Vaterland Wachter*" is published weekly, in the German language, by Mr. George Bergner. It is a folio of super-royal size, containing twenty-four columns of reading matter and advertisements. It has reached its fifteenth volume. Its politics are American Republican, and is edited with considerable ability. The subscription price is \$1 per year in advance. Its publication office is at Bergner's bookstore, Market street.

The "*Patriot and Union*" is in its fourth volume. It is a consolidation of the "Pennsylvania Patriot," established March 4, 1854; the "Democratic Union," established June 7, 1843,



by the juncture of the "Keystone," "Reporter," and "Gazette;" and the "Keystone," established several years ago by Mr. O. Barret. The latter paper joined the consolidation on the 1st of September last. It is a folio of large double medium size, containing twenty-eight columns of closely printed reading matter and advertisements. During the session of the Legislature it is issued twice a week at \$2 per annum. It is published at present by O. Barret & Co., and edited with great vigor by R. J. Haldeman, Esq., and assistants. It is Democratic in politics, and enjoys a large circulation and advertising patronage. The publication office is located on Third street, between Market and Walnut streets.

The "*Lancaster and Harrisburg Democrat*" is published in the German language, once a week, simultaneously in Lancaster and Harrisburg. It is a folio of double medium size, containing twenty-eight columns of reading matter and advertisements. The paper is a consolidation of the "*Lancaster Democrat*" with the "*Harrisburg Democrat*," which was effected on the 29th of April, 1858. Its present publishers are Messrs Kuhn, Fuss & Weaver, and its editors are Messrs. Kuhn and Hass, the latter of whom resides here. The subscription price is \$1 per annum in advance. Its publication office in Harrisburg is in Rasberry alley, near the Court House.

**THE DAILY PRESS.**—The publication of daily papers in the borough is by no means a novel experiment. The compiler has been kindly permitted to examine files of daily papers printed here twenty-five years ago, at which period it was customary for nearly all the leading journalists to publish daily editions of their respective papers during the session of the Legislature.

Generally, these papers were about one-fourth the size of the present dailies, and consisted principally of legislative proceedings, which were regularly preserved and transferred into the weekly editions. They possessed no local character whatever,

and depended entirely for support upon the patronage extended to them by members of the Legislature.

A more recent, and what might be termed the first attempt to establish permanently a daily paper in the borough, was made on the 27th of December, 1850, by Messrs. George Bergner & Co., who at that time commenced the publication of the "*American Whig*." The paper was handsomely printed on a medium sheet, and contained twenty-four columns. It was well supported, but owing to the ill health of Mr. Bergner, that gentleman was compelled, after publishing it about a year, to relinquish his interest therein, after which it passed into the hands of Mr. Collin M'Curdy, who published it a few months longer, when it ceased to exist.

The next appearance in the daily paper field was the "*Borough Item*," started in the fall of 1852 by Messrs. George P. Crap and George W. George. This paper was about one-half the size of the present dailies. It was strictly local in its character, and being edited with considerable ability, it soon attained a list of over one thousand subscribers, besides monopolizing nearly all the local advertising patronage. It was daily continuing to gain public favor, when other dailies entered the field in competition, which caused its gradual decline until November, 1857, when it ceased to exist. The first competitor of the "*Item*" was

The "*Daily Times*," published by William H. Egle & Co. The size of the "*Times*" was a trifle larger than that of the "*Item*." It was edited with great ability by Mr. Egle, and was, like the "*Item*," "independent in all things, neutral in none." After being published a few months, it was purchased by Messrs. Miller, Clyde & Patterson, then publishing the "*Weekly Telegraph*," who enlarged it to super-royal size, and continued its publication under the title of

The "*Morning Herald*." The super-royal size was retained only a short time, when it was reduced back to the size of the

"Times." The "Herald" was edited with great ability, and was a formidable rival of the "Item." It was published about two years, when its proprietors dissolved partnership.

The "*Harrisburg Daily Herald*" succeeded the above "Herald." It was published and edited by Mr. William P. Coulter. The size of the sheet was about half as large as the present dailies. It was independent in all things. Mr. J. J. Clyde succeeded Mr. Coulter as its publisher, who, in turn, was succeeded by Mr. Benj. Whitman. This gentleman, in 1858, sold an interest in the establishment to Messrs. Royal & M'Reynolds, at which time it was considerably enlarged, and called simply the "Daily Herald." Mr. Whitman occupied its editorial chair. It was published every morning until the 1st of September, 1858, when the firm disposed of their interest in the concern to Messrs. O. Barret & Co., of the weekly "Patriot and Union," who continue its publication under the name of

The "*Daily Patriot and Union*." The size of this sheet is considerably larger than either of its immediate predecessors. It contains twenty-four columns, and is edited with marked ability by R. J. Haldeman, Esq., and assistants. Its politics are Democratic, and commands an extensive influence among the leaders of that party. It enjoys a large circulation and a good advertising patronage. The subscription price to mail subscribers is \$4 per annum, and to those residing in the borough six cents per week.

The "*Daily Pennsylvania Telegraph*" was established October 7, 1856, by George Bergner & Co., its present publishers. It is a folio of large super-royal size, containing twenty-four columns of reading matter and advertisements. As its motto indicates, it is "independent in all things, neutral in none." It is published every evening, and enjoys a very large circulation, with a fair share of advertising patronage. The editorial department is conducted with great ability by a corps of talented writers. No labor or expense is spared by its enterprising pub-

lishers to make it a first class newspaper. The subscription price to mail subscribers is \$4 per annum ; to subscribers in the borough, six cents per week.

#### CONCLUSION.

This concludes, for the present, our collection of "Annals of Harrisburg;" and the compiler trusts they will be received with the indulgence due to the enterprise. The reflecting reader will justly appreciate the difficulties in procuring minute and accurate information respecting the early history of the borough, and will not be surprised if, notwithstanding the efforts of the compiler, by personal intercourse with old citizens, and by laborious research among the public records, *some* inaccuracies should be found in the work. In the first edition of such a work, error is unavoidable; but the compiler flatters himself that there is no more in this than in others of like character, and that it will prove useful and satisfactory to the public.

## APPENDIX.

---

The following incidents connected with the early history of Harrisburg, unless otherwise indicated, were chiefly derived from the reminiscences of several old citizens. They give a faithful and lively picture of the borough in days of "Auld lang syne," and will be read with interest.

### THE PAXTON CHURCH.

The Paxton Church, still standing about three miles from Harrisburg, was erected about the year 1722; and from documents in the possession of George W. Harris, Esq., it appears that his great grandfather, John Harris, furnished all, or most of the stones used in its construction. This note is made to correct the supposition of many that the Paxton Church was erected previous to the settlement of John Harris on the Susquehanna.

### FIRST ROAD FROM HARRISBURG TO PHILADELPHIA.

The first regular road from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, by way of Lancaster and Chester counties, was procured in 1736, by petition of sundry inhabitants of said counties.

### A MATRON OF THE OLDEN TIME.

"The wife of John Harris, the first settler, rode once on urgency to Philadelphia, the same horse, in one day! At one time when at Big Island, on the West Branch of the Susquehanna, hearing of her husband's illness, she came down in a day and night in a bark canoe."—*Watson's Annals*.

## CUMBERLAND VALLEY IN OLDEN TIME.

George W. Harris, Esq., has heard his grandmother say that the whole extent of country between the South and Blue mountains, from the west bank of the Susquehanna to Carlisle, and beyond, was without timber when she was young. Now it is a well timbered country.

## DERIVATIONS.

Susquehanna is derived from its Indian name—*Sa-os-gua-ha-na-un-k*, i. e., Long-crooked-river.

Swatara creek is called after Suataaro, a town in the north of Ireland.

## SUPPLIES FOR GEN. SULLIVAN'S ARMY.

A large number of the troops, and most of the supplies for Gen. Sullivan's expedition against the Indians on the Susquehanna, in 1779, passed through this place. Gen. Sullivan, with the main body of the army, reached the Susquehanna at Sunbury, by way of Easton. The supplies ascended the river in *batteaux*; and it is curious to know that these were used in accordance with a suggestion made by John Harris, Jr., in 1756, showing their superiority over canoes, then the universal mode of navigating the river.

## THE RELIGIOUS VIEWS OF JOHN HARRIS, SR.

John Harris, Sr., was an Episcopalian, although he contributed liberally to the Presbyterian (Paxton) Church, then under the pastorate of the Rev. Col. Elder, in whose language "Mr. Harris was as honest a man as ever broke bread."

Upon one occasion a man named Thomas Rennox, a leading elder of the Paxton Church, in company with Mr. Harris, attended a match at "*Bullet playing*," (a favorite pastime in old times, now forgotten,) of which they were both very fond.—

Presently the players perceived Parson Elder approaching on his way to Derry Church, when Rennox hid himself behind a tree. When the parson came up, he perceived Mr. Harris, who had "stood his ground."

"Well," said the parson to Mr. Harris, "of all the men in my congregation I am most surprised to see you here," and then proceeded to give him a severe lecture. After he had got through, and was going off, Mr. Harris turned around and called out, "Thomas Rennox come out here;" whereupon the deacon made his appearance and also received a sound lecturing.

#### MULBERRY STREET GRAVE-YARD.

The site of the old Bethel Church, in Mulberry street, was at one time a grave-yard. Hercules—the colored man who aided in the rescue of the first settler, Harris, from the Indians—was buried here; and his grave was recognizable until excavations were made for improving the spot, at which time his skull and a few bones were discovered, and removed by the descendants of Mr. Harris to the grave occupied by one of his children in the colored people's burial ground, at the foot of Chestnut street.

While making excavations in the vicinity of the church, in May, 1858, for a new school house, the workmen exhumed a large quantity of human bones.

#### THE FIRST BORN.

Mr. Jacob Hise, who died several years ago, was the first male person born in the town after it was laid out.

#### FIRST U. S. SENATOR FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

Mr. Maclay, the founder of Maclaysburg, subsequently annexed to Harrisburg, with Robert Morris, represented Pennsylvania in the *first* Senate of the United States.

## THE FIRST COUNTY PRISON.

Mr. Peter Snyder, still living, aged eighty-one, states that the first county prison was a small two story log house, which formerly stood in the alley, back of the present prison.

## POND NEAR MARKET SQUARE.

Some of our oldest citizens recollect seeing people skating upon a frozen pond which, at one time, occupied the site of the old Coverly House, now Kelker's hardware store, at the east corner of Market square. In the summer time the pond was the favorite resort of boys, who amused themselves fishing for frogs, &c. Subsequently, it was the site of a lumber yard.

## TROOPS FOR GEN. ST. CLAIR'S ARMY.

Several large detachments of regular United States troops passed through the borough in 1790-1, to join the army commanded by Gen. St. Clair, operating against the Western Indians. The father of Capt. Jeremiah Reese was at that time the lessee of the Harris ferry, and Capt. Reese, then a young man, steered one of the flats which conveyed the troops across the river.

## THE PUMPKIN FLOOD.

Captain Jeremiah Reese relates that during the celebrated "Pumpkin flood" the water covered the floor of his father's tavern [now the frame part of Hogan's tavern, in Paxton street] to the depth of two feet.

## THE RIVER RACE-COURSE.

About the time that Harrisburg was incorporated into a borough, the lower or first bank of the river, between the two bridges, extended about thirty feet further out than it does at



the present day, the earth having been washed away to its present extent by the annual spring and fall freshets. The surface of this bank was level, and covered over with a beautiful green sward, forming a pleasing promenade for the elder villagers, and an admirable play-ground for the juveniles. In later days, the spot was invaded by "lovers of the turf;" the promenade was turned into a race-course; and the innocent prattle of children gave place to the rude and boisterous slang of horse jockeys, or the loud *vivas* of the multitude, applauding some favorite animal speeding along the course.

#### DR. FENTON'S HORSE.

One gentleman, Dr. Fenton, is said to have owned a horse that was considered quite a prodigy. He was trained to run the race-course without a rider, and perform divers other singular feats, one of which was to carry letters. When his master desired to communicate with a particular friend on the opposite side of the river, he would write on a piece of paper and attach it to the horse's mane; then leading the animal to the river, he would point to the opposite shore and say "go," and off the noble animal would spring into the water, nor loiter on his way until he reached the place of his destination on the opposite shore, where he would wait until the answer was prepared, with which he returned in the same manner to his master.

#### "APPEARANCES OFTEN DECEPTIVE."

Upon one occasion, John Harris, Jr., purchased from a gentleman of Philadelphia a gray horse that had obtained considerable celebrity for his racing qualities. Mr. H., however, was not aware of this fact, and used the animal alike in the carriage and plough. A short time afterwards there came to Harrisburg a man named Clark, who lived in Detroit, with the family of Thomas M'Kee. Clark was on a visit to some of his friends in this county, and had with him one of a number of blood horses

which M'Kee had imported from Europe. The animal attracted much attention from the "horse fanciers" of the village, who all agreed that it was a remarkable good looking "piece of horse flesh," and expressed a desire to see it perform on the race-course. The owner naturally felt proud of these good opinions; and desiring to gratify the curiosity of the rustic critics, as well as his own vanity, offered to run the animal against any other horse in the neighborhood. This challenge was overheard by some of Mr. Harris' workmen, who immediately accepted it; and without the consent of their employer, repaired to a potato field in Mulberry street, near Front, where they found Isaac (one of Mr. Harris' colored men) engaged ploughing with the gray horse. This individual, after being informed of the circumstances, entered heartily into the affair, and in a short time the gray horse was unharnessed, and led by the party to the appointed race-course, which at that time was located about the line of the present canal, below Paxton street.

We can well imagine the laughter and ridicule with which this unkempt animal was greeted as he made his appearance on the "course," his stout form still reeking with the sweat of his field labors; but his leaders, unmindful of the gibes and jests with which they were assailed, began to make their arrangements, and in a short space of time the "old hoss," as the bystanders termed him, guided by a blind bridle, was led up to the side of his clean-limbed and glossy competitor. At the word "go," both of the animals started abreast. Clark's horse took the lead for twenty yards or so; but the sturdy plough-horse, warmed up with reminiscences of other days, suddenly passed to the front like the wind, and beat his competitor a hundred yards in the mile!

#### MORE REMARKABLE HORSES.

Drs. Martin Luther and Hall, both eminent medical practitioners in their day, also owned remarkable horses.

On one occasion these gentlemen were riding their animals across the river, at the usual fording place, opposite Harris' red warehouse, and when at a point below Foster's Island, the horse of the former gentleman stumbled, throwing his rider head over heels into the water. As the river was pretty high at the time, such an unceremonious ducking was not unaccompanied with great danger, even though the unfortunate doctor's head or bones remained intact after the concussion, for the current was swift, and the nearest visible land was far beyond the reach of any ordinary swimmer. Immediately after perceiving the disaster, of course, Dr. Hale proceeded to his colleague's relief; but in this he was anticipated, for no sooner did the noble animal belonging to Dr. L. see his master struggling in the water than he grasped him with his teeth by the coat collar, and in this manner conveyed him rapidly to the shore, where he safely deposited his valuable burden, and waited beside it until the arrival of Dr. Hall, who restored his friend alike to consciousness and his saddle.

Dr. Hall's horse was never peaceable or tractable but with his master. If the Doctor, by accident, fell from the saddle the horse would wait quietly in the road until he was re-mounted; nor would he permit any person to lead him away or touch the Doctor on these occasions.

#### A WILD BUFFALO KILLED IN HARRISBURG.

Mr. Peter Snyder relates that on a Sunday morning, about the year 1792, a wild *buffalo* suddenly came among a herd of cows who were at pasture in what was at that time known as "Maclay's Swamp," which occupied pretty much all the country lying on the west and north side of capitol hill to the ridge on the opposite side of Paxton creek. The cows were frightened at the appearance of the strange animal, and scampered off rapidly towards the town; while the buffalo, as thoroughly frightened by the sudden *stampede*, and following the habit of its kind,

ran with the drove for safety. The surprise of the quiet citizens as these excited animals entered the village, may be better imagined than described. Many who had never seen a buffalo, and ignorant of its nature, were alarmed beyond measure, and retreated to their dwellings; while others, better informed, and eager for sport and profit, quickly procured their guns and went in pursuit of the singular visitor with the view to its capture. After an exciting race through the streets, this was finally accomplished by chasing it, with a number of cows, into a stable belonging to Mr. Harris, in River alley. Here the buffalo was killed, and its carcass divided among its captors.

#### A WILD BEAR KILLED NEAR THE BOROUGH.

The same gentleman also states that about the year 1797, he and his brother chased a wild bear from the ridge, east of the borough, into what was formerly known as "Hanna's woods," now the property of A. B. Hamilton, Esq. Here the bear mounted a tree on the side of a hollow, and calmly surveyed its pursuers. Mr. S.'s brother first fired at the animal, but his gun, loadened only with small bird shot, failed to have much effect; whereupon the relator loadened a small gun with several buck-shot, and fired at the animal, killing it instantly. The bear weighed about one hundred and twenty pounds.

Mr. Snyder further informed the compiler that he has caught with his hands a large number of pike fish in a small branch of Paxton creek, that formerly run through the meadows, east of the borough, near the line of the present canal.

#### ATTEMPTED WHISKEY INSURRECTION AT HARRISBURG.

"A duty being laid upon whiskey, that general and favorite beverage in Pennsylvania, it was found a potent theme for the purpose of sedition; and it was accordingly preached upon with so much unction that an insurrection was the consequence. It began beyond the mountains, in the summer of 1794, spreading

from West to East with wonderful rapidity. Harrisburg was quickly infected; and a meeting had been called for the purpose of passing some inflammatory resolutions. By the persuasion, however, of a few of us, who were untouched by the contagion, these inconsiderate men were induced to desist; though less, perhaps, from a sense of their error than from our assurance that a body of troops were on their march to the seat of insurrection, and that if they persisted in their undertaking they would involve themselves in the guilt of a forcible opposition to the laws, and most surely have cause to repent of their temerity."—*Graydon's Memoirs*.

#### BURNING TOM PAINE'S LETTER.

The citizens of Harrisburg celebrated the anniversary of Washington's birth-day, in 1797, by a public dinner, at the house of George Zeigler. After the reading of a number of patriotic toasts, "Tom Paine's brutal letter to President Washington was burned by the hands of the drummer, to the tune of the Rogue's March, amid the general and hearty acclamations of the company."

#### LADIES' COSTUME.

Some idea of the costume worn by our old-time matrons may be gathered by the following extract from a communication in the "Oracle" of 1797:—"The ladies who attend Divine service at the English meeting-house in Harrisburg, do not arrogate an exclusive privilege of sitting in the circle formerly occupied by lawyers; and it is happy for them, for the beaux being duly impressed with the inestimable right of equality, would strenuously dispute with them that accommodating situation, and no doubt for this laudable and unanswerable reason: that from that place, which is a little elevated, a more conspicuous display may be made of the inimitable skill of the *Frizure*, and of the adroitness of the *highly balloned cravat*, which can be *hardly excelled by the most foppish footman*."

## WOLVES—A GOOD SHOT.

The "Oracle of Dauphin" of April 12, 1797, publishes the following as a fact :

"A FACT.—A few years ago, a respectable farmer near Harrisburg having frequently his sheep destroyed by wolves, laid wait one evening with a well-loaded musket, in order to take satisfaction for the depredations committed. He had not remained long in his hidden place before a gang of them approached, when, filled with rage for injuries received, and taking good aim he let drive and killed *seven*! which was the whole gang. He received the premium for each, agreeably to the law of this State."

## CHIMNEY-SWEEPING MONOPOLY.

In 1797, the burgesses of Harrisburg, Messrs. William Graydon and James Sawyer, enacted the following ordinance : "That if any inhabitant of the borough of Harrisburg shall procure his or her chimney or chimneys to be swept by any other chimney-sweeper than John Croft, (unless upon application to the said John Croft he shall refuse or neglect to sweep such chimney or chimneys,) he or she shall forfeit and pay the sum of one dollar for every such offence."

## LIST OF LETTERS.

The list of letters remaining in the Post Office at Harrisburg were advertised in the "Oracle of Dauphin" every two weeks. The lists published in 1797 and 1798, embraced the names of a large number of people residing at the time in Lewistown, Northumberland, Carlisle, Middletown, &c. The amount of postage due on each letter was placed opposite the names.

## A CURIOUS STONE MOULD.

A stone mould for running musket and rifle bullets was found in digging a well, about thirty feet below the surface of the

earth, near Coxestown, a few miles north of the borough, in the year 1797. A solid rock several feet thick lay immediately above it.

#### THE PRISON WALL.

The stone wall enclosing the County Prison was erected in 1798. The Commissioners of the county issued proposals for its construction in November, 1797.

#### SALE OF THE MILL-SEAT.

The mill-seat purchased from the Landis' by the citizens of Harrisburg, previously mentioned, was sold by the latter "at public vendue, in the Court House, on the 18th of November, 1797." We cannot learn who purchased it.

#### TRAVELING ACCOMMODATIONS SIXTY YEARS AGO.

Messrs. Matthias Slough and William Gear were each proprietors of a line of stages running between Lancaster, Harrisburg, Carlisle and Shippensburg, in the year 1797. They had formerly been in partnership. The stages of the former gentleman "set out from the house of Capt. Andrew Lee, in Harrisburg," [afterwards called the "Washington House."] The fare on this line was, from Harrisburg to Lancaster, \$2; from Lancaster to Carlisle, \$3; and from Lancaster to Shippensburg, \$4.

The stages of Mr. Geer "set out from the house of William Feree, in Lancaster, on every Tuesday and Saturday mornings, at six o'clock, proceeding to the westward; and from the house of Mr. Samuel Elder, in Harrisburg, every Wednesday morning, arriving at Shippensburg on the same evening. This line connected with stages, which started from the White Horse tavern in Market street, Philadelphia, every Monday and Friday.—The same proprietor also ran a stage from Harrisburg every Wednesday, which arrived at Sunbury every Thursday; and returned every Saturday; "so that passengers from Sunbury,

destined for Lancaster and Philadelphia, could proceed thence on Mondays."

Mr. William Coleman was the proprietor of a line of stages that started every Monday morning, at four o'clock, from the public house of Mr. George Zeigler, in Harrisburg, and arrived at Philadelphia, by way of Reading, every Wednesday at noon.

In 1818, Mr. Nicholas Schwoyer ran a light stage, twice a week, from Harrisburg to the canal, [?] where it was met by a line established by Mr. Jesse Shaeffer, which run to York.— This stage left the "Fountain Inn," at Harrisburg, every Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

These several modes of conveyance would illy suit the people of this progressive age; yet at that period they were considered quite sufficient, and a decided improvement over the "post-horse" system, used previously.

The conveyance of the mails was equally slow. In 1798, the Post Master General, Joseph Habersham, issued proposals for carrying the mails, *once in two weeks*, on the following route:

"From Harrisburg, by Clark's Ferry, Millerstown, Thompsonstown, Mifflintown, Lewistown, Huntingdon, Alexandria, Bellefonte, Aaronsburg, Mifflinburg, Lewisburg, Northumberland and Sunbury, to Harrisburg. The mail to leave Harrisburg from October 15th to April 15th, every other Monday, at six A. M., and return to Harrisburg the next Monday by 7 P. M. And from April 15th to October 15th, to leave Harrisburg every other Saturday at two P. M., and return to Harrisburg the next Sunday week, by seven P. M."

On the 15th of November, 1797, the Post Master General, in reply to a letter addressed to him respecting the transmission of a mail between Harrisburg and Lancaster, wrote as follows:

"Mr. Slough has written me on the subject of a private mail between Lancaster and Harrisburg, but no contract has been formed on the subject; indeed it does not now appear to me expedient to form any; as *there cannot be much communication*



*by post between Lancaster and Harrisburg, (1) and the correspondence between Harrisburg and this city [Philadelphia] is well provided for already.*

JOSEPH HABERSHAM, *P. M. G.*"

In 1812, Mr. Wright, the post master, advertised that "the Western mail will be closed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at two o'clock P. M., and the Eastern mail every day (Sundays excepted) at eight o'clock A. M."

#### DANCING AND DANCING MASTERS.

The inhabitants of Harrisburg, sixty years ago, seemed to have been unusually fond of patronizing the Terpsichorean art; and it is quite amusing to hear the survivors of that period relate incidents of the many "dances" in which they participated when they were "young rollicking blades."

We have previously mentioned the names of some of those who had the honor of instructing our forefathers in the "poetry of motion."

One of the most popular means of promoting the art was that afforded by an organization styled the "Harrisburg Dancing Assembly," which commenced operations in October, 1796.

We find the following advertisement respecting this "Assembly" in the "Oracle of Dauphin," for that year:

"DANCING ASSEMBLY.—The subscribers to the Harrisburg Dancing Assembly are informed that it will be opened on Thursday evening next at six o'clock, at the house of Capt. Lee.

Seventh October, 1796."

Another advertisement in the "Oracle," for the week following, requests the "ladies to attend the Assembly precisely at six o'clock, that the managers may be enabled to make the necessary arrangements."

Our fathers evidently "kept good hours;" for under the pre-

sent system of balls, it is not deemed fashionable to have the ladies appear much before ten o'clock.

By another advertisement in the "Oracle," the ladies are again requested "to be particular in attending at six o'clock, as at that time precisely they will draw for numbers."

What these "numbers" were to represent, the compiler is unable to say.

Among the managers of the "Assembly" at various times, were Messrs. Samuel Laird, Fr. Dazell, John Elder and Alexander Graydon, all gentlemen of the highest respectability.

In January, 1797, Mr. B. Holdich opened a dancing school in Capt. Lee's assembly rooms; and the first practicing ball of his pupils took place on the 17th of February following. To this ball "the ladies and gentlemen (subscribers) were invited to witness the improvement of the pupils." Gentlemen's tickets (non-subscribers) were one dollar each; each ticket admitting a lady and gentleman to the practice of the evening. The Court and Bath cotillions were to be danced by the company, with several new country dances. The practice was to commence at six o'clock, and end at eleven o'clock.

We conclude our sketch by copying *verbatim* the following advertisement of Mr. Holdich, in the "Oracle" for April 4, 1798:

"DANCING SCHOOL.—Subscriptions are respectfully solicited for a third half quarter, to commence on Monday, April 9, and conclude with a ball, Saturday, May 20. In addition to the former objects of tuition will be taught '*The City Cotillion*,' as taught by Sicard, Quesnet, and all the French masters in Philadelphia, New York, &c., and '*The Plain Minuet*.' Such of the pupils as make sufficient progress shall also be taught the '*Minuet de la Cour*,' because it is more than probable that the school will not be continued during the present winter.

B. HOLDICH."

## FAIRS.

About the middle of the months of June, fifty years ago, there would be merry times in the borough—merry times as eye could see or ear could hear; the whole place would ring with drums, banjos, bag-pipes, trumpets, fiddles and fifes; besides a good deal of bellowing and shouting, roaring of laughter, and every other kind of noise that the human voice could produce. In short, this was the time of the *fair* days—"institutions" that now, alas! are numbered among the things "long since forgotten." On these occasions, Market Square would be the grand centre of attraction for the multitude of citizens and strangers. In one place might be seen the juggler performing all manner of tricks; in another place rope dancers were nimbly pirouetting before the enraptured gaze of the country rustics; in another place were the living anacondas, tame elephants, learned dogs, and a host of other rare and curious animals brought hither by their owners to amuse and edify the people. But these were only accessories and adjuncts to the fair; which was, in truth, a great commercial mart, where goods and chattels of almost every kind were sold, from a hank of yarn to a mammoth bull.

In several parts of the Square booths of entertainment would be erected, where revelry, mirth and feasting was indulged with a degree of license unknown at other times and seasons; while in other booths, again, the more sober farmers, and the large households that they brought with them, could provide themselves with food at a reasonable price, and in a decent manner. Through all the streets and alleys in the neighborhood of the Square would float a mixed multitude of all kinds; buyers, sellers, minstrels, musicians, old women, beautiful girls, young children, yankees, wagoners; all jostling, hustling, talking, laughing, singing and playing in the utmost good humor. Bright and brilliant were these *fair* days; a sort of maddening merriment was in every sound; it was intoxicating and infectious;

nobody could help imbibing the miasma of hilarity that spread around.

We make these as prefatory remarks to the following extract from the "Oracle of Dauphin" of June 6, 1798 :

"On Friday and Saturday last was celebrated in this town the anniversary fair, with all its accustomed singularities. The lasses, as usual, assembled like bees on a summer's day. The swains, too, were very numerous ; so that none of the former, it is to be presumed, went home with a heavy heart in consequence of neglect from the latter."

#### RIVER NAVIGATION FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The principal mode of navigating the river, fifty years ago, was by keel boats, or "broad horns," similar to those used on the Western waters prior to the introduction of steam. These boats, laden with grain, flour, iron, and other productions of Northern Pennsylvania and New York, would descend with the current of the river to tide water or Baltimore, and after discharging their cargo, return again to the places from which they started. A large number of the boats unshipped their cargo at this place for transportation, by wagons, to Lancaster or Philadelphia. The red warehouse, on the bank of the river, at Paxton street, was erected principally to accommodate this trade ; and was frequently filled with goods awaiting wagons to transport them eastward. As many as fifty keel-boats have been tied-up along the shore of the river, near the warehouse, at one time ; and as the boatmen were "jolly fellows," the whole town would be enlivened, for weeks at a time, with their songs, music, and fandangoes.

Mr. Benjamin A. Taylor, yet living in the borough, frequently conducted a keel-boat to the head waters of the Susquehanna, in New York State.

## MACLAY'S SWAMP.

At one time the low ground, fronting the State Capitol, between Second and Third streets, and from Pine street to the ridge north-east of the borough, was a dense swamp, whose edges was so thickly beset with tangled briars that, in the language of an old citizen, "the place was almost impenetrable to the dogs." The swamp was familiarly known as "Maclay's." A natural gully ran from its lower end into the creek, whose channel, still remaining, crosses Front street, above Walnut. This creek was also the outlet of the pond in Market square, already noticed. When the river was high, the water at the mouth of the creek would overflow Front street, and render it impassable. On these occasions vehicles and pedestrians would be compelled to go around by Second street.

At the June Sessions of Court, in 1800, a petition was presented, praying that body to grant an order for the erection of a bridge over this creek, or "gut" as it was then called. The application was successful; and the County Commissioners were directed to appropriate the sum of \$200 for the erection of the same.

## BALD EAGLE NESTS.

The islands in the river, opposite the borough, were famous fifty years ago, or later, as places of roost for bald eagles.—Many of them built their nests there, and on some occasions hundreds of these noble birds were to be seen hovering in the air, above the river, in that vicinity. The fishermen were always informed of the approach of a school of shad up the river by the action of the eagles, who in great numbers would follow it in the air above, occasionally descending with lightning rapidity into the water, from which some of them would invariably rise with an unlucky shad in their talons, which they would devour while continuing their flight.

## INDIANS AT THE GRAVE OF JOHN HARRIS, SR.

When George W. Harris, Esq., was a boy, he remembers seeing ten or twelve Indians at his father's house, (the frame building now owned by Mr. Trullinger, on Front street, above Vine.) They were from the State of New York, and were on their way to the seat of the General Government. One of the number, an old chieftain, once lived in this vicinity, and had been well acquainted with John Harris, Jr., and Mr. Robert Harris thought with the first John Harris. He had come this way on purpose to see John Harris, or his father, and was greatly grieved to learn of their death. Mr. Robert Harris invited the party to breakfast; after which they repaired to the grave of the elder Harris, on the river bank, where the old chieftain sobbed audibly as he pressed the soil which covered the remains of one whom, from his earliest infancy, he had been taught to regard as the red man's friend.

“Thither once, in slow procession,  
Came the children of the forest,  
They whose ancestors were rulers  
Of the realm that we inhabit.

To that solemn delegation  
From the tribes of forest-people,  
Spake the pale-faced friend who led them,  
In whose guardianship they trusted,  
Told them how \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

He, who loved his red-brow'd children,  
When the toils of war were over,  
Dwelt in peace 'neath yonder roof-tree,  
Sow'd the corn, and reap'd the wheat-sheaf,  
And when all his days were number'd,  
Slumber'd in that tomb beside them,  
While the earth stood up to praise him.  
\* \* \* \* \*

But they paus'd and changed their manner,  
Bowing down their heads and weeping,  
Round the tomb more closely gathering,  
Pour'd a solemn dirge of sorrow,  
So prolong'd and so despairing,  
That the very birds who heard it,  
Lingering 'mid the nested branches,  
Closed their wings and caught the cadence.

Mournful 'mid that hallowed scenery,  
Echoing thro' that vista'd foliage,  
Sighing o'er the funeral cypress,  
Rose that wild and deep lamenting  
Of the downcast forest-dwellers,  
Like forsaken children, wailing,  
Hopeless o'er a buried father."—MRS. SIGOURNEY.

#### FIRST ANTHRACITE COAL USED IN THE BOROUGH.

Valentine Hummel, Sr., distinctly remembers the first anthracite coal used in the borough. It was from Wilkesbarre, and was brought here in an ark, on the river. The entire load was sold to Jacob Boas, Esq., and was at that time considered more than sufficient to supply Harrisburg for a year. Mr. Hummel thinks this occurrence was in the year 1810 or 1811.

#### ALEXANDER GRAYDON, ESQ.

The following biographical sketch of the first Prothonotary of Dauphin county originally appeared in the Philadelphia Monthly Magazine for April, 1829 :

"Among the contributors to the Port Folio was Alexander Graydon, author of a delightful book, entitled 'Memoirs of a Life chiefly passed in Pennsylvania.' He was an officer for a short time in the revolutionary army, and his book contains many graphic sketches of occurrences of that eventful period. He wrote with much pleasantry, and seldom fails to impress, in vivid colors, his pictures on the imagination of the reader. Graydon

was born on the 10th of April, 1752, in the village of Bristol. His father, who had been designed for the pulpit, left Ireland in 1730, and on his arrival in America directed his attention to mercantile pursuits, and afterwards to the law. In 1761, the subject of our notice lost his father, whose property being inadequate to the support of his widow, she removed to Philadelphia, and established a boarding house. Mr. Graydon received the rudiments of the Latin language from Mr. Beveridge, and at the age of sixteen commenced the study of the law. During this probation he acquired some knowledge of the French language. In January, 1776, he received a captain's commission in the battalion under the command of Col. Cadwalader. In the spring of the same year his regiment was ordered to New York, and in November surrendered to the British, at Fort Washington.

It was not until the early part of 1778 that he was exchanged, and he did not afterwards resume his station in the army. He now married; was admitted to the bar; and in 1785 was appointed Prothonotary of the county of Dauphin, which office he held until the election of Governor M'Kean, when he was removed on account of his political opinions.

His reading must have been extensive. He wrote political essays in Fenno's Gazette, in 1797, and at different periods contributed to the Port Folio. He died in 1818, in Philadelphia, aged about sixty-five. In stature he was beneath the common size, and in his youth remarkably active; possessing an intelligent countenance, which became animated in conversation. He has been thus described: 'He was one of the few survivors of that old school of accomplished gentlemen which flourished before our Revolution, at a period when the courtesy of society was not disturbed by insubordination in systems, nor violated by laxity in sentiments. In his youth, Mr. Graydon was remarkable for the elegance of his person, and he retained that advantage in an uncommon degree until his latest hour.' He had pro-

-



jected a revised and an enlarged edition of his Memoirs, but died before he had made much progress."

A revised and enlarged edition of Mr. Graydon's Memoirs was published in 1846, by Mr. Littell, of Philadelphia.

#### DISTINGUISHED FOREIGNERS IN HARRISBURG.

In the spring of 1842, the English novelist, Charles Dickens, accompanied by his wife, being on a tour through the United States and Canadas, visited Harrisburg on their way from Baltimore to Pittsburg. They remained here over night and the following forenoon, at the Eagle Hotel, then kept by Henry Buehler, Esq., a brother of the present occupant. The distinguished author gives an amusing account of this visit in his "American Notes for General Circulation," published after his return to England, and celebrated for their severe reflections upon the institutions and manners of our countrymen.

In the same year, Prince de Joinville, a son of Louis Philippe, King of the French, who was likewise on a tour through the United States, arrived in the borough from Pittsburg, *en route* for Philadelphia. The Prince's suite embraced several distinguished French noblemen. The party ate dinner at Matthew Wilson's Hotel.

In the spring of 1858, Lord Napier and Count de Sartiges, the former the English, and the latter the French minister near our Government, accompanied by Sir William Gore Ouseley, English ambassador, arrived in the borough *en route* for Reading. During their stay here, the distinguished gentlemen were the guests of Gen. Simon Cameron.

In "Graydon's Memoirs," mention is made of the author being visited at Harrisburg, in 1790 or 1791, by the Count de Noailles, M. Fallon, M de Blacons, Capt. Boilleau, and other distinguished Frenchmen, and in 1795, by the Duc de Rochefoucault Liancourt, the celebrated French traveller.

## THE EASTERN SWAMP.

Among the remarkable changes in the appearance of the borough within the memory of the present generation, is that which has been made on its eastern border.

The compiler distinctly remembers when the site of the present handsome depot of the Harrisburg and Lancaster railroad was occupied by a board-yard, owned, we think, by David Lingle, Sr. The ground in its vicinity was exceedingly swampy, which made it a favorite place of resort for idle school boys, who would find a great source of amusement in pelting bull-frogs and snapping-turtles, which abounded there.

At this time, and until about fifteen years ago, the land lying between the Harrisburg and Lancaster railroad and Second streets, as far north as the east end of Rasberry alley, was covered with a sheet of stagnant water. Along its southern edge, fronting on Second street, was a long row of lusty willow trees, whose branches in the spring of the year were much sought after by the boys to make "whistles" with.

In the winter time this pond was a famous skating place; and we have often seen hundreds of people taking their holiday and pleasure upon its frozen surface. Groups of ladies would not unfrequently assemble on the bank at Second street, watching the gay and animating scene before them.

Upon one occasion a lady, we believe from the State of Connecticut, made her appearance on the frozen pond with a pair of skates, which a companion buckled to her feet, and in a few moments, without the aid of gentle or simple, she arose to an erect posture, and floated off like a swan. She was a fine skater, and the people watched with pleasure the grace and freedom and beauty of her movements. So admirable a person, of so exquisite a figure, and such perfect art in her evolutions, seemed to marry motion to music, beauty and poetry, and indeed to embody and represent them all. Away she would sweep through

lines of human beings, making dense masses separate to let her pass, and attracting all eyes after her.

Among the male skaters who at all times were discernible as being decidedly superior to the rest for dexterity, power and grace, were, within our recollection, Messrs. Peter Weaver, Alex. Hamilton, John Lingle, E. S. German, C. Alward, Amos Cleckner, John Martin, David J. Krause, not forgetting, by the way, Jim Battis, a mulatto, who, from his muscle and powerful movements, might have sprang, as did the noble Moor, from "men of royal seige." In swiftness he had no competitor; he outstripped the wind; and his actions were very imposing in appearance and effect. Of the gentlemen previously named, Mr. Weaver took the lead in graceful skating, and in superior dexterity in cutting "high dutch" within a limited space of smooth ice.

The compiler also recollects seeing the remains of "Maclay's swamp," noticed previously, between Third and Second streets, and North and South streets. This was also a favorite place for skaters in winter time, especially that part of it below State street, as the wing walls of the arch over which said street passed the swamp, formed a comfortable barrier against the rude "nor'westers."

#### RELICS OF THE "OLDEN TIME."

A lady friend, whose contributions to the newspapers are much admired for their vigor and piquancy, has, at the compiler's request, very kindly furnished the following letter, descriptive of the numerous relics of the "olden time" preserved with great care in the State Departments at this place. Aside from its merits as a literary production, it will form a convenient guide to those of our citizens and strangers who feel an interest in, and desire to inspect the objects it so vividly describes:

"To-day has been one of the pages in my life's-book, whose corner I will turn down as a mark for future reference, and upon

whose margin I will write "sunny memories," for such will its recollection ever be to me. Like the miser who daily adds one more piece of money to his shining heap, yet pauses most lovingly over the bit of old gold which perchance was the beginning of his precious hoard, so I fancy, years hence, I will select from among my store of pleasant remembrances, this fragment of pure ore which I picked up in the mine of a few hours' desultory wanderings, and upon which I have built a peculiar reverence for the gallant Keystone State and its noble capital. Stopping a while at Harrisburg, *en route* for Pittsburg, the polite landlord of our hotel proposed that we should visit the public buildings, and examine their curiosities. Of course I gladly assented, feeling a strong desire to see a locality around which clustered so many varied associations; but never dreamed that each one of the imposing edifices was, as I found them, in itself a casket whose rare treasures would gladden the eyes of the most fastidious antiquary.

There is a *heart* interest in these objects differing widely from the sensations created by a view of articles of *virtu*, rendered curious alone by their mere originality and rarity; for they are not only the well preserved jewels of Pennsylvania's great commonwealth, but some of them, like the magic stone which turned whatever it touched into gold, need but be handled by any true American to have his patriotism thrilled by a new emotion, and the lustre of his devotion to his country made brighter by personal contact with some of the yet living links with the times and things which helped to make it free. Presuming upon your desire to know every minutiae which has assisted to build up my new enthusiasm, I will give you a detailed account of what I saw and felt in the exact order of their succession.

Entering the park through its eastern gate, we ascended the boardwalk a few yards, then turning to the right into a wide path which diverged from it at right angles, we walked over its pebbled surface, and between its fringed borders of dewy grass,

directly into the main entrance of a large pagoda-like looking building, known as the State Arsenal. Its lower hall bore none of the insignia of "glorious war" in its placid surroundings. The cleanly-swept floor, white-washed walls, cheerful sunshine streaming in through the polished window panes, and huge piles of sacking—which in my ignorance I mistook for salt bags, but which proved to be the folded tents just returned from a neighboring encampment—combined to give the place rather a domestic appearance than otherwise. However, upon mounting into the second story, the scene, like from a quiet, grassy, flower-laden meadow into a blood-stained battle-field, suddenly changed; for standing in racks, packed in boxes, stacked in corners, and hanging with soldier-like precision upon rows of nails, we found almost every variety of military accoutrements. A vast quantity of "small arms" used in the revolutionary war, now useless in point of fact, yet still preserved for their undying associations, occupy different niches in the rooms; but decidedly the "curiosities" of the place are four beautiful brass cannon, (six-pounders,) which were brought to this country in the fleet of Count d'Estang, and presented by Lafayette to the Continental Congress. All are highly finished, bearing upon their polished surface and exquisite carving, evidences of that superior workmanship and Parisian taste, which, whether in the moulding of a thundering cannon or in the forming of a child's tiny toy, are yet unrivalled. They closely resemble each other in shape, differing only in the mottoes with which each pair is labelled. Their handles are carved to represent two dolphins, with bodies raised in the centre. Encircling the breach of one is the inscription, "A. Donay, Par., Berringer, 1756." Upon the middle of the top surface is a plate, upon which the figures of a sun, crown, cannon and flags are gracefully combined, crowned by the words "Nec pluribus impar;" while the other, bearing the French *oriflamme*—a bunch of lilies with spear points at the edges—has beneath it, half wreathing the muzzle, the strangely

significant warning, "Ultima ratio Regnum." Both letters and figures are in bas-relief, and for the work of one century ago, choice specimens of admirable skill. Each one, "like a warrior taking his rest," now lies undisturbed, having never since they were deposited here been used for any fiercer strife than to vie with human tongues in a welcome to their great-hearted donor, when, in 1824, he visited Harrisburg; and for no less nobler cause than to swell the glad shout of some national rejoicing, I fervently pray, may they never again burn powder.

Here are also preserved in honorable seclusion two other brass cannon—the one a six, the other an eighteen-pounder—which were captured at Cerra Gordo by the American army. The former, cast in Mexico, contains at the breach the inscription "El Pegaso," in raised letters, and engraved near its muzzle these words: "Captured at Cerra Gordo, April 18, 1847, by the American army under Major General Scott. Presented to the State of Pennsylvania by Major General Patterson." The latter was manufactured at Liverpool, England, in 1824, and bears a similar inscription.

Leaving the Arsenal, with its fearful treasures and victor's spoils, we traversed a paved avenue, between trees whose broad branches mingled their October-tinted foliage above our heads; beneath a blue sky whose glories were half veiled by clouds of early autumn's golden mists; beside rare groupings of swelling mounds, evergreens and grassy embankments, and upon stones which echoed to the tripping of merry little feet, as children, happy as humming birds, flitted across our path, sipping the sweets of the morning hours, until, reaching the sandstone steps leading up to the Land Office, we paused for an instant to examine a splendid specimen of the India tree, *accacia catechu*, which some enterprising botanist has reared until it is thoroughly acclimated, and from which exudes the *catechouc*, to whose preservative qualities we all stand so much indebted. Within the Land Office, with its tiled floor, rows of high desks,

pigeon holes filled with dry, dusty old land warrants, and massive tomes which looked sufficiently solemn and dignified to contain all the written wisdom of the world's mighty Solons, we saw many quaint specimens of chirography, as unique as they are beautiful. There are deeds of transfer of land to and from the brothers Penn and their cotemporaries, drawn upon wide sheets of heavy parchment, and bearing their separate signatures; a large book in which is a list of names of the persons proscribed by the authorities as traitors during the Revolution; an original letter from William Penn directed "to the Emperor of Canada," his autograph written with a bold firmness, so characteristic of the writer; and copied records of land titles and warrants issued near one hundred years ago, which, while the fingers that traced them have long since mouldered into dust, still retain a freshness and exceeding beauty of color and form which our modern scribes may try in vain to surpass. There is also preserved in this office two small blocks of wood—the one of beach, the other of hemlock—that were once produced before the State Board of Property as evidence respecting certain land boundary lines. The blocks were cut so as to exhibit all the annual rings of the growth of the wood, and their number was the testimony required. A shrewd defendant was the producer of these mute witnesses, for well he seemed to know that, though man may often err, nature never lies.

Upon entering the Representative Chamber, after admiring the taste and elegant fitness evinced in its various adornments, we wondered to see behind the Speaker's desk a plain, old-fashioned, high-backed, leather-cushioned walnut chair, standing out in bold relief from the mass of silken drapery which festoons the pillars and back of this legislative pulpit; but every feeling was soon absorbed in the one emotion of veneration when we were told that in it John Hancock sat when he signed the Declaration of Independence with a force that showed *it was never meant to be erased*, and from which he also signed Lafayette's

4

commission in the Continental army. For a brief moment I too rested between the friendly arms which have enclosed the forms of noble heroes, and whose light clasp seemed a hallowed embrace; and I did wish most earnestly that, by the thrilling memories of its past uses, it possessed the power to shake off from its merest touch the form of any man, however high his official station, who would bring to the spot on which whole-souled patriots once reposed, a heart so full of party prejudices and political rancor that love for the real interest of his country could find in it no place.

Crossing the gaily frescoed rotunda, through whose circular galleries our softest footfall resounded like the tread of mailed men, and along whose frescoed walls our eyes wandered up, up, up, to the sunlit dome, as if involuntarily measuring step by step their harmonious gradations of light and shade, we passed into the Senate Chamber. That I did not immediately upon entering drop a low and reverent courtesy to the two fine looking gentlemen who seemed standing against the farthest wall, was because the impulse was checked by a second glance, during which I saw that a broad gilt frame surrounded each one, and that they were but painted fac-similes of their distinguished originals, Washington and Penn; yet they are majestic in size, and reputed to be exceeding life-like. They were painted by authority of a resolution of the Senate, about the year 1827-8, and depict both men when in the prime of their ripened manhood. Not far from them, and rendered conspicuous by their own striking beauty, are two small paintings representing the heads, life size, of those illustrious adventurers, Columbus and Americus Vesputius. They are the work of a celebrated artist of Florence, Italy, painted at the order of Commodore Elliott, of the United States Navy, and presented by him to this State. They are said to be faithful *copies* of the very few *portraits* ever taken of them. I do not possess any artistic skill—am even ignorant of the application of those technical terms, “tone,



breadth, depth," &c., so much in use by *connoisseurs*—but the most uneducated eye cannot fail, like mine, to be arrested by the warm, mellow, summer sunset glow in which those heads seem bathed, and which light up every feature as though a soul gleamed through them. There is that particularly depicted upon the face of Columbus suggestive of a world of thought, as the artist, with seeming knowledge of his indomitable energy, has imprisoned in his eye a flash of that dauntless courage and firm determination which won him immortality amongst men; and while reverencing the God-given attributes of the one, we equally admire the genius which portrayed upon the dull canvass the fleshy tabernacle in which they dwelt.

Another large painting, interesting from its local associations, records a startling event in the life of John Harris, the first white settler on the spot where Harrisburg now stands, namely, the attempt made by the Indians to burn him. He is represented as bound to a huge mulberry tree, growing but a few rods from his mansion. Groups of fierce looking Indians, with their hideous faces, and in warrior costume, surround him, some piling the faggots about his tied feet, others looking on with an expression of fiendish satisfaction playing upon each swarthy face, while calm as a Christian martyr their victim seems to await his doom. The beautiful Susquehanna stretches out before him, while cutting through the flashing waters a canoe filled with friendly Indians are seen hastening to his rescue. The scenery of the picture was suggested to the artist (who had accompanied the celebrated Catlin among the Indians) by a grandson of the first settler, the late Robert Harris, Esq., in whose boyhood days the foundation walls and some of the timbers of the block house visible on the right side of the picture, were still remaining. The entire grouping, then, is supposed to be very accurate, and delineates a *fact* in the history of this borough which the pen of wildest romance could not make more vivid. Standing on one of the mantel-pieces in this Chamber is a small marble eagle,

also presented to the State by Commodore Elliott, and carved by a common sailor on board his ship, out of a bit of a marble pillar from the ruins of Alexandria, Egypt. The worthy Commodore, in speaking of the sculptor, said: "He was a most excellent seaman, but strongly addicted to intemperance when on shore."

The transition from the cheerful looking Senatorial Hall into the still more inviting State Library, was made in a chase up a flight of broad stairs; but once within this—I had almost said sanctuary—where the workings of so many mighty minds were revealed to our desires, the previous gratification of sight alone was increased by the new incentives offered us to touch, think and feel. Our first look upward to the galleries revealed, suspended from them, several marine paintings of the battle of Lake Erie, their frames veneered with oak wood taken from "Old Ironsides," (the frigate Constitution,) and likewise the gifts of the liberal Commodore Elliott.

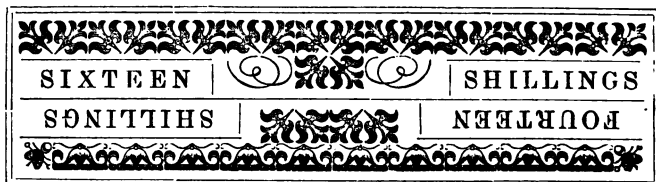
Among the thousands of volumes of choice literature here displayed, whose gilded titles glanced at hurriedly, are enough to inflict upon a greedy scholar the pangs of Tantalus, we saw some that were printed in the seventeenth century, and handled one—the complete works of Seneca—which, bearing the date of 1503, is now three hundred and fifty years old. It really has a very ancient look, with its whitish gray back, rough edged leaves faintly tinged with Time's yellow, and wise, learned sounding Latin sentences; and if I treated it with marked respect, what wonder! seeing that I did not understand one word of its philosophical contents. But more than all these mental gems is an object which, if ever there is built in the United States a national Temple, should be its altar; I mean a *table* which has recently been discovered, and authenticated to be the veritable one *upon which the Declaration of Independence was signed!* It is made of mahogany, in the style of an old fashioned *escretoire*, with small drawers beneath it; is six feet long,

and nearly three feet high. Its antiquated appearance among so much modern furniture, renders no other introduction to a stranger necessary.

In the reception room of the gubernatorial apartments, in the rear of the State Treasury buildings, are, executed in the highest style of finish, the oil-painted portraits of twenty-two Governors of Pennsylvania, commencing with William Penn, as he appeared in 1666, dressed in a full suit of mail, with long dark hair flowing over his shoulders like a girl's; succeeded by Gordon, Logan, Richard Penn, John Penn, Wharton, Moore, Franklin, Mifflin, M'Kean, Snyder, Findlay, Heister, Shultz, Wolf, Ritner, Porter, Shunk, Johnston, Bigler, Pollock, and ending with the present winning, manly looking incumbent, William F. Packer.

Suspended in glass cases along the walls of this apartment are also certificates of the election of the first Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Colonial Assembly, each signed by all the members who participated in the election; also, the first constitution of Pennsylvania, and the charter of Charles II. to William Penn, both inscribed on parchment, and the latter a specimen of splendid fancy penmanship. In one of the corners will be found two lances, and a musket with bayonet, captured by the Americans during a Mexican battle. But decidedly the most interesting feature of this airy room is a glass cabinet containing some State relics, almost as highly prized for their age as the stirring events of which they once formed a part, and for which they now serve as living indices of their early history. In it is a *flag* taken from the Hessians at the battle of Trenton, now a bundle of moth-eaten, faded silk; a package of yellow, torn letters, being fragments of a genuine correspondence between Alex. Hamilton and Franklin; also, letters from Washington and Robert Hunter Morris, with their respective signatures; the *original* charter, on a roll of long, board-like parchment, of Charles II. to

William Penn, for the province of Pennsylvania; and sundry laws passed between the periods of 1682 and 1690. A hundred old deeds of conveyance of land sold by the Indians to the proprietors, and bearing the Indian signatures or *marks*, some of which would puzzle a naturalist, as there is surely nothing above, on, or under the earth like to them—snakes, lizards, turtles, birds, bears, deers, foxes, elks—almost every specimen of the animal tribes are endeavored to be represented as their signs manual; and if they failed to be very artistically drawn, their entire originality is worthy of much praise. A few of the names are rather euphonious—such as La Kachquontas, Chienoched, Qual-pagh-ach, and Canassetoga—admitting, however, of no pet abbreviations; and the best proof of their simple wants and blissful ignorance is, that one of the “considerations” named in a deed of conveyance of land, was a handful of fish-hooks. Here are also large seals of beeswax, stamped with devices that would puzzle the most ingenious to decipher; a mass of continental money, or more properly speaking, *shinplasters*, from the denomination of one shilling to ten pounds sterling, and pieces of brass and copper money which are a study for the curious. The former is a rectangular shaped piece of brass, about three inches long, one inch broad, and one-sixteenth of an inch thick. It is very handsomely engraved on one side with numerous flourishes, amid which are the words fourteen and sixteen shillings, thus:



The copper piece is three and a half inches long, nearly a half inch wide, and about an eighth of an inch thick, also hand-

somely engraved with flourishes, something like the following:



This money is supposed to have been in use during the infancy of the colony, and most probably the brass piece was one of the "broad shillings" so often alluded to in old-time annals.

Within this case are also three of the massive silver medals that were struck by authority of the Legislature for presentation to the Pennsylvania volunteers who participated in the battle of Lake Erie, bearing the names respectively of "Isaac B. Sill," "Jacob Levensetter," and "John Cook;" but as yet neither they nor their descendants have appeared to claim them. The medals are alike in size and appearance, being two inches in diameter, an eighth of an inch thick, and contain four dollars worth of silver. One side has on them a bust of Perry, encircled by the words, "Oliverus Hazard Perry Pro Patria." "Presented by the Government of Pennsylvania." The reverse side bears the legend, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours;" and within a wreath is engraved—

" [The recipient's name]

In testimony of his patriotism and bravery  
in the naval action on Lake Erie,  
September 10, 1813."

With the re-closed lid of this glass case our examination of the Capitol's hoarded "curiosities" was completed; but upon mounting into the dome, and taking a view from its elevated height, we felt that our visit would have been as nothing had we missed the magnificent panorama by which we were surrounded. I would but mislead your imagination by attempting to convey to you an impression of the scenic beauty which for

a while almost bewildered me ; but think, if you can, of a vast girdle of far-off, distant, misty blue hills, faintly defined upon the horizon ; against them put rows of towering, uneven, but withal gently sloping mountains, purple, black, or darkly blue, just as each drifting cloud shadows them ; within this inner zone scatter the loveliest valleys of which you can conceive ; green meadows ; wooded hills ; golden purple groves ; brown fields, resting from the gleanings of a bounteous harvest ; villages dotting the country here and there with the most charming irregularity ; farm-houses and farms, each in themselves a little Arcadia ; countless roads diverging from one common centre, and winding about until in the distance they look like the tiny trail which a child's stick makes in the sand ; a broad, silvery river, looking in the sunshine like liquid light, reproducing on its clear surface the wonderful beauty which lines either bank ; studded with green islands that "blossom like the rose," spanned by splendid bridges, as delicate in their appearance as lace work or fillagree, yet supporting hundreds of tons daily ; in the heart of all see a city, whose factories, furnaces, churches, majestic public buildings, handsome private residences and attractive suburbs betokens prosperity, intelligence, cultivation, wealth and constant improvement ; over the whole throw that peculiar *colour de rose* with which the heart in its happiest moments paints all it loves, and you will have a faint, very faint, idea of the aspect of Dauphin county as seen from that Capitol's dome.

Leaving the park, with its wealth of choice shrubbery, noble trees, brown-eyed deer and singing birds, we wended our steps down Front street, to where, almost at its extreme end, is still standing the trunk of the tree to which Harris was tied. His body is buried at its foot. A handsome iron railing encloses the small lot, between whose bars woodbines, honeysuckles and roses, planted there by the hands of his descendants, gracefully wind their clinging tendrils. The upright trunk is his only monument ; but none other is needed, for his memory, inseparably

linked with the history of Harrisburg, needs no graven marble to chronicle the spot where his dust reposes.

And now, sir, being a little wearied with the last two hours' exercise, and anxious, too, to effect your release from this rather long letter, I will add nothing more, save that Harrisburg is one of the most interesting towns the sun ever shone on ; and I am, as ever, yours devotedly,

NINA.

The compiler concludes his labors by presenting to the reader the following beautiful poem, descriptive of an incident recorded on page 10 of the "Annals." It was written by A. J. Herr, Esq., present District Attorney of Dauphin county, and originally contributed by him to the "Home Journal," a literary paper published at New York, by Messrs. Morris & Willis :

#### THE RESCUE.

#### A LEGEND OF BY-GONE TIMES.

BY A. J. HERR.

The Summer had swept with its burning wing  
The beautiful brow of the fair young Spring ;  
The zenith was tinged with a golden glow,  
While blazing Sol sublimely sunk below  
The lofty hills, with dark green woodlands crown'd,  
Bathing their tops with mellow glory round.  
'Twas the bright month of June, when Nature fills  
The fields with flowers ; and o'er an hundred hills  
The gush of bloom and beauty filled the eye,  
Heightened by rich reflections from the sky.  
The gorgeous banks of Susquehanna's stream,  
(Where many a dark-eyed Indian damsel's dream  
Had been of some loved warrior or brave sire,  
When burned upon the shore the council fire,)  
Were in the season's fairest beauty dressed ;  
While on the river's gently rolling breast  
Two verdant islands to the eye were given,  
As if suspended between earth and heaven.

Beneath the surface of the silvery wave  
 Two other islands dim reflection gave ;  
 And far around, in rugged grandeur, rose  
 The ragged, rocky cliffs, in grim repose ;  
 Yet graced with green by Nature, and so gay,  
 They lost the wildness of the wintry day.

See on yon bank, with solemn visage pale,  
 \* His white locks streaming in the evening gale,  
 A tall and stately man surveys the scene,  
 So deck'd by Nature with rich gold and green ;  
 In simple garb of solemn drab surveys  
 That aged man the wise Creator's ways ;  
 While in his ear the still small voice reveals  
 The goodness of that God, and his heart feels  
 That all the beauty that his eye could scan  
 Was made to gratify ungrateful man.  
 He gazed upon the sinking sun sublime,  
 The dark blue hills, that spurn'd the tooth of time, •  
 The rushing river and the forest wide,  
 Then blessed that God who all his wants supplied.

Hark ! heard you not the Indian's awful whoop ?  
 Beware ! beware ! old man, that murderous troop !  
 They have been tasting of the mad'ning bowl,  
 And savage feeling flames in every soul—  
 In every heart there is a hell ; and oh !  
 If rum thou hast not, thou art doomed to woe.  
 Their glittering knives e'en now methinks I see,  
 Ready to reek with gore, old man, from thee.

Oh ! shame that white man should to Indians bear  
 That *curses* that brings but death and dark despair ;  
 That they their vices, not their virtues give,  
 And sooner doom to death than bid them live.  
 \* Soon will the last lone Indian bow before  
 The setting sun, the last time to adore ; •  
 \* Ere one more century, with step sublime,  
 Shall march adown the distant tide of time,  
 The race of red men will have passed away, •  
 - And classic scholars as they shall survey  
 Their mounds and monuments, and relics rare,  
 Will ask what manner of beings they were.



But see! around the old man is that band!  
Each tongue is mute, but stretched is every hand.  
A shout uprose, each lip joins in the cry,  
While vengeance flames in every flashing eye;  
The good old man, reflecting on the curse,  
And all the evils that it brings far worse,  
Gently refuses the request, in tones  
That meek humility only owns.  
Quick as a flash of lightning from the sky,  
Rolls down the river bank the dreadful cry—  
“The stake!” while from the cloud-capped hills there came  
Echo’s sound, till heav’n hurled it back again.  
Unmoved by threats, the fearless old man stands,  
Folded upon his breast his harmless hands;  
“Indians,” said he, “to thee I freely sell  
The goods of life, but not the ills of hell;  
Taste not the accursed draught, ’twill prove to thee  
Eternal death—eternal misery.”

Scarce had the words from his lips fell  
Ere thro’ the woodlands rung a long, loud yell—  
“Death to the trader!” burst in one wild cry,  
But steady still was that brave old man’s eye;  
He feared not death if duty found a grave,  
And violated virtue must life save.

Inflamed with rage, the red-browed race leap’d up  
Resolved to force from him the damning cup  
Seizing the bold old man, they rudely bore  
His unresisting form along the shore;  
He plead nor prayed to them, but smiled alone,  
Pointing above to the great White Throne.  
Foaming with wrath, beneath a primeval tree,  
They bound his limbs to mark his agony:  
But HARRIS saw beyond the verge of time  
A power Omnipotent, a power sublime,  
Who from his arms could rend the strongest chain,  
And bid him rise, unscathed, unharmed again.  
Lashed to the tree, the Indians build the pyre,  
And pile up faggots ready for the fire;  
The blazing torch with shouts they now apply,  
Shouts that run echoing through the vaulted sky.

But still that good old man, with quiet gaze,  
Beholds around, unmoved, the bursting blaze;  
Nor heeds he now the dusky forms that there  
Are waiting for the shrieks of his despair;  
His pious spirit, at the chrystal gates  
Of heaven in faith, for succor calmly waits.

Wildly the dance of death begins; the flame  
Like living viper coils around his frame.  
But hark! from youder woody shore now glide  
Three bark canoes across the rapid tide;  
The rescuing Indians leap on shore to save  
Their pale faced "father" from a dismal grave.  
"Onward, to save him!" cries the brave young chief;  
With gleaming knives they fly to his relief;  
Back, back they drive the inebriated throng,  
Who, mad with frenzy, chaunt the wild death song;  
Sev'ring the bonds which bound him to the tree,  
Again beneath the heavens he stood free;  
Unscathed he was, and fearless still his eye,  
For his soul's trust was in his God on High.  
And what is man if in that trust undone?  
His heart's a waste, a world without a sun.

## INDEX.

---

An Indian's revenge, . . . . .	21
A dangerous candlestick, . . . . .	21
Address from the settlers, . . . . .	44
Attempt to fix the federal seat of government at Harrisburg,	77
Attorneys, list of, . . . . .	285
Academy, Harrisburg, . . . . .	299
Aerial Club, . . . . .	308
 "Buckshot War," . . . . .	 197
Brant's City Hall, . . . . .	254
Baptist Church, . . . . .	289
Bethel, (colored,) . . . . .	292
Bible Society, Harrisburg, . . . . .	300
Beneficial Society, Harrisburg, . . . . .	320
German, . . . . .	321
B'nai B'rith, (Salem Lodge,) . . . . .	322
Building Association, . . . . .	324
Banks and Savings Institutions, . . . . .	326
Bridges, . . . . .	343
Buffalo killed in Harrisburg, . . . . .	361
Bear killed near Harrisburg, . . . . .	362
 Council with the Indians, . . . . .	 46
Contemplated Massacre at Paxton Church, . . . . .	50
Citizens of Paxton and Derry offer their services, . . . . .	61
Changes in the name of the town, . . . . .	88
Curious case of swindling, . . . . .	86
Court House, first, . . . . .	84
present, its cost, . . . . .	89
description of, . . . . .	282
Capitol, State, its cost, . . . . .	144
laying the corner-stone of, . . . . .	145

Capitol, State, furnishing, . . . . .	147
first occupancy of, . . . . .	151
description of, . . . . .	226
Correspondence between the citizens of Harrisburg and the War	
Department, . . . . .	178
Cameron Guards, . . . . .	207
return of, . . . . .	211
Cotton Factory, . . . . .	251
Cemetery, . . . . .	257
Church of God, . . . . .	288
Catholic Church, . . . . .	288
Common Schools, . . . . .	294
Christian Association, Young Men's, . . . . .	304
Cumberland Valley, . . . . .	356
Chimney-sweeping monopoly, . . . . .	364
Coal, anthracite, first used in the borough, . . . . .	373
Death of Half-King, . . . . .	31
Dauphin county, erection of, . . . . .	70
Deeds of conveyance of John Harris, . . . . .	72, 75
Deeds for public grounds, with their dates, . . . . .	147
Depot, Harrisburg and Lancaster railroad, . . . . .	256
Lebanon Valley railroad, . . . . .	257
Dauphin Guard, . . . . .	325
Derivations, . . . . .	356
Dancing and dancing masters, . . . . .	367
Expedition to Mahanoy creek, . . . . .	39
Earthquake at Harrisburg, . . . . .	123
Execution of convicts, . . . . .	211
Exchange, (Masonic Hall,) . . . . .	255
Episcopal Church, . . . . .	287
Evangelical Association, . . . . .	292
Eintracht, . . . . .	309
Eagle Nests, . . . . .	371
Ferry right, grant of, to John Harris, Jr., . . . . .	23
French and Indian war, . . . . .	33
First Court at Harrisburg, . . . . .	82
Fire in 1813, . . . . .	166

Fire in 1819, . . . . .	167
in 1828, . . . . .	191
in 1888, . . . . .	206
Flood in the Susquehanna in 1846, . . . . .	206
Female Seminary, . . . . .	296
College, Pennsylvania, . . . . .	297
Flash Boat Club, . . . . .	308
Free Masonry, . . . . .	310
Fire department, . . . . .	329
First born, . . . . .	357
Fairs, . . . . .	389
Foreigners, distinguished, at Harrisburg, . . . . .	375
Graydon, Alexander, on sickness at Harrisburg, . . . . .	101
on Washington's visit, . . . . .	108
biography of, . . . . .	373
Gas works, . . . . .	250
German Reformed Church, . . . . .	271
Good Templars, . . . . .	323
Gymnasium, . . . . .	325
Harris, John, Sr., his first settlement, . . . . .	7
becomes an Indian trader, . . . . .	8
his mansion on the Susquehanna, . . . . .	9
condemned to be burned; his rescue, . . . . .	10
his Indian neighbors, . . . . .	15
commenced a clearing on the Juniata, . . . . .	18
his real estate possessions, . . . . .	20
his religious views, . . . . .	356
his death, . . . . .	28
his burial place, . . . . .	13
Harris, John, Jr., his birth, . . . . .	9
letters of, on the state of the country, . . . . .	35, 36
in reference to Indian massacres, . . . . .	37, 39, 41
original and miscellaneous, . . . . .	52, 62, 63
and family threatened with death, . . . . .	48
furnishes supplies to Congress, . . . . .	60
looks after the resources of the country, . . . . .	62
proposes to lay out a town at his ferry, . . . . .	71
offers his services to transport supplies, . . . . .	63

John Harris, Jr., his mansion to let, . . . . .	112
death of, . . . . .	89
Harris ferry a supply depot for the army, . . . . .	66
town laid out at, . . . . .	72
seat of government at, predicted, . . . . .	76
to let, . . . . .	112
Harrisburg, appearance of, when first laid out, . . . . .	80
incorporated, . . . . .	87
limits of, incorporated, . . . . .	88
Library Company, . . . . .	115
theatre at, in 1796, . . . . .	116
earthquake at, . . . . .	123
in 1808-9-10-11, . . . . .	123
removal of Legislature to, . . . . .	186
during the second war of independence, . . . . .	155
canal company, . . . . .	168
riot at, . . . . .	180
Lancasterian school at, . . . . .	183
first water in canal at, . . . . .	191
great snow storm at, . . . . .	192
water power at, . . . . .	193
meteoric shower at, . . . . .	194
first arrival of railroad cars at, . . . . .	196
"buckshot war" at, . . . . .	197
at present, . . . . .	222
Hospital, Pennsylvania State Lunatic, . . . . .	260
Home Mission, Young Men's, . . . . .	305
Harmonic Society, . . . . .	309
Indian remains, . . . . .	16
visitors, . . . . .	26, 120
massacre at Mahanoy creek, . . . . .	87
council at Harris' ferry, . . . . .	51
Indians at the grave of John Harris, Sr., . . . . .	372
Ice flood, . . . . .	68
Insurance companies, . . . . .	328
Judges of Dauphin county courts, . . . . .	85
July 4th, sixty-two years ago, . . . . .	113
in 1796, . . . . .	116

Library Company, at Harrisburg, . . . . .	115
Lafayette in Harrisburg, . . . . .	171
Lancasterian school, . . . . .	188
Lutheran Church, . . . . .	276
German, . . . . .	290
Literary society, German, . . . . .	308
Liederkrantz, . . . . .	810
Ladies' costume, . . . . .	868
Letters, list of, . . . . .	864
Montour, Andrew, letter of, . . . . .	86
Morris, Governor, at Harris' Ferry, . . . . .	48
Market houses, their cost, . . . . .	91
Mill-dam troubles at Harrisburg, . . . . .	92
Mail-carrier, first, from Harrisburg northward, . . . . .	112
Miscellany, . . . . .	117, 181
Muster roll of "Cameron Guards," . . . . .	207
Meteoric shower, . . . . .	194
Masonic Hall, (Exchange,) . . . . .	255
Methodist Episcopal Church, . . . . .	285
Matron of the olden time, . . . . .	855
Mulberry street graveyard, . . . . .	857
Maclay's swamp, . . . . .	871
Newspaper, first, at Harrisburg, . . . . .	104
Negro for sale, . . . . .	118
Ohaf Sholem congregation, . . . . .	292
Odd Fellows, . . . . .	317
O. U. A. M., Fulton Council, . . . . .	320
Old Soldiers' Union, . . . . .	324
Presence of mind of John Harris, Sr.'s, wife, . . . . .	20
Penn's city on the Susquehanna, . . . . .	22
Paxtonians retaliate, (Conestoga massacre,) . . . . .	58
Paxton during the Revolution, . . . . .	60
Paxtonians after the enemy, . . . . .	68
Pumpkin flood, . . . . .	68, 358
Postmasters of Harrisburg, . . . . .	111
Patriotism of the citizens in 1797, . . . . .	118

Public ground, proposed extension of, to the river, . . . . .	150
Penn lock, laying corner-stone of, . . . . .	181
Prison, county, . . . . .	243
first, . . . . .	358
Presbyterian Church, . . . . .	278
colored, . . . . .	293
Park Association, . . . . .	324
Press of Harrisburg, . . . . .	349
Paxton Church, . . . . .	355
Pond near Market Square, . . . . .	358
Paine's, Tom, letter, burning of, . . . . .	363
Prison wall, . . . . .	365
Rejoicing of the citizens, . . . . .	165
Red Men, Sa-os-qua-ha-na-unk Tribe, . . . . .	322
Railroads and canal, . . . . .	348
Road, first, from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, . . . . .	355
Race-course, river, . . . . .	358
Remarkable horse, Dr. Fenton's, . . . . .	359
Drs. Luther and Hall's, . . . . .	360
John Harris, Jr.'s, . . . . .	359
River navigation sixty years ago, . . . . .	370
Relics of "olden time," . . . . .	377
Rescue, the, . . . . .	389
Smith, Col., letter of, . . . . .	66
Swindling, curious case of, . . . . .	86
Sickness at Harrisburg, great, . . . . .	91
Susquehanna river, removing obstructions from, . . . . .	114
improving navigation of, . . . . .	174
steamboats on, . . . . .	175
Squirrels by the barrel, . . . . .	117
Singular occurrence, . . . . .	120
Sedition law, arrest at Harrisburg, . . . . .	121
Seat of government of Pennsylvania predicted by Harris, . . . . .	76
removal to Harrisburg, . . . . .	136
attempt to remove to Carlisle, . . . . .	154
Shakspeare House, . . . . .	168
Snow storm, great, . . . . .	192



South ward school house, . . . . .	270
Select schools, . . . . .	300
Sunday School Teachers' Union, . . . . .	301
Mission, Episcopal, . . . . .	307
Lutheran, . . . . .	307
State Capital brass band, . . . . .	310
Saxonian brass band, . . . . .	310
Sons of Temperance, . . . . .	320
Sullivan's army, supplies for, . . . . .	356
St. Clair's army, troops for, . . . . .	358
Stone mould, curious, . . . . .	364
Swamp, eastern, . . . . .	376
Threatened murder of friendly Indians at Harris' ferry, . . . . .	47
The enemy invade Paxton, . . . . .	48
Theatre at Harrisburg in 1796, . . . . .	116
Temperance, Daughters of, . . . . .	321
colored, . . . . .	322
Travelling accommodations sixty years ago, . . . . .	365
United Brethren Church, . . . . .	291
Union communion, . . . . .	308
Union Benevolent Society, . . . . .	320
United States Senator, first from Pennsylvania, . . . . .	357
Visit of Lieut. Gov. Evans to Paxton, . . . . .	17
Volunteers from Harrisburg during the "Whiskey insurrection,"	105
war of 1812, muster rolls, 155	
Whitefield, Rev. George, at Harris' ferry, . . . . .	25
Weiser, Conrad, letter of, . . . . .	41
Wyoming refugees, seek protection at Harris' ferry, . . . . .	65
Whiskey insurrection, United States troops at Harrisburg, . . . . .	104
attempted, at Harrisburg, . . . . .	362
Washington, General, in Harrisburg, . . . . .	106
addresses of the burgesses to, . . . . .	106
reply of, . . . . .	107
where he lodged, . . . . .	109
death of, proceedings in Harrisburg and	
Middletown, . . . . .	121

David G. Frances n. el 1/30/9

400

ANNALS OF HARRISBURG.

Water works, . . . . .	248
Wesleyan Union (colored) Church, . . . . .	292
Washington Library, . . . . .	308
Wolves near Harrisburg, . . . . .	364
Young Men's Christian Association, . . . . .	304
Home Mission, . . . . .	305









THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED  
AN OVERDUE FEE IF THE BOOK IS NOT  
RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR

BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED  
BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE  
NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE  
BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

CAL  
W JUL 11 1981  
BOOK DUE  
JUL 11 1981  
7091413

US 16849.5  
Annals, comprising memoirs, incident  
Widener Library 006092631



3 2044 086 398 864